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STILL SCREAMING
LOOKING BACK ON A FRANCHISE WE GREW UP WITH {page 18}

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT
NHL PLAYOFF PREVIEW
{page 33}

TORONTO metro®
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Galaxy. Star

▶ David Beckham speaks to the media yesterday during a press conference in Toronto.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Becks back on local pitch

David Beckham, the former captain of England's national team, who will soon turn 36, will return to BMO Field tonight when his Los Angeles Galaxy play Toronto FC.

Harper vs. everyone

PM pitches benefits of majority while fending off attacks relating to allegations of deception, dubious spending and secrecy

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper adopted a world-weary prime ministerial presence at the televised leaders debates last night to chide his political opponents to stop the "bickering."

"What we are asking — in an election we didn't want, in an election Canadians didn't want — we're asking Canadians to make the decision: Do you want to have this kind of bickering, do you want to have another election in two years? Or do you want a focus on the economy?" an unflappable Harper asked at the debate's midpoint.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff shot back: "There he goes again with this word 'bickering.' This is a debate, Mr. Harper. This is a democracy."

Harper was slapped from the opening exchange of the evening, when Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe thanked him for taking his first question of the campaign from a citizen.

"I hope this time — and I'm being quite frank — I hope it is a majority. Otherwise ... we're going to be back into a fifth election in no time at all."
PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER

Harper has been running a classic front-runner's campaign, with only limited, tightly scripted interactions with the public.

And NDP Leader Jack Layton, another seasoned veteran of televised leaders' debates, landed blows literally left and right as he took on both Ignatieff and Harper in turns.

After ripping Ignatieff's Liberals for supporting Harper's minority government in a number of key votes, Layton turned to the podium on his right.

"In fact, Mr. Harper, if it hadn't been for him supporting you all this time, I'd have to be lending you my crutch so your government could've stayed in power," said Layton, who recently had hip surgery.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inside the debate {page 10}

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JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Sonja Plunkett leaves the Newmarket courthouse where the trial of Nadeem Jiwa began Monday.

Accused cop killer takes stand

Nadeem Jiwa says he didn't realize he was surrounded by police when he reversed a stolen car, fatally pinning a York officer against a tree.

Testifying at his first-degree murder trial yesterday in Newmarket, Jiwa, 23, said he was startled to see a man leap from a black SUV ahead and point a gun at his accomplice in airbag thefts and then at him. Moments later, someone yanked open the driver's door of the Honda Accord he had been planning to ditch nearby.

"I thought, 'What the hell's going on?' I was scared," he said under questioning from his lawyer.

"This guy's pointing a gun at me. I thought he was going to shoot me.

"I wasn't thinking. I just saw danger."

Jiwa has pleaded not guilty to the murder of Det.-Const. Rob Plunkett, who was part of a police surveillance team that had been following Jiwa and a friend in a south Markham neighbourhood Aug. 2, 2007. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Los Angeles Temptation quarterback Ashley Salerno scrambles against the Philadelphia Passion during the Lingerie Football League's Lingerie Bowl VIII in Las Vegas in February.

The ultimate in fantasy football

Lingerie Football League coming to Toronto in the fall ◗ LFL founder hopes a former Toronto Argonaut might step up as coach of the team

Toronto is finally getting an American football team — though our players will show more skin to their fans than most.

The Lingerie Football League (LFL), where svelte women play the U.S. version of the game in bras and panties to mostly male fans, has named its first international franchise.

"It's become the most successful women's professional league in the U.S. in (two years)," said Mitchell S. Mortaza, the founder and chairman of the league.

"This move is part of a much bigger-picture play in Canada."
MITCHELL S. MORTAZA, LFL CHAIRMAN

The Toronto team will debut in the U.S. league this fall and play against the Cleveland Crush, Philadelphia Passion, Baltimore Charm, Tampa Breeze and Orlando Fantasy in the eastern conference.

In September 2012, a Canadian league will debut with five more teams. Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal and Hamilton are among those in the running for a squad.

"There's two ownership groups that are currently bidding for the rights (to the Toronto team)," Mortaza said. "One is a major sports group and the other is a commercial real estate developer."

Tryouts for players, who aren't paid but have their travel expenses covered, will be April 30 in Toronto. The location will be announced soon.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 news

New study gives more proof that an apple a day keeps the doctor away. Scan code for the story.

On the web at metronews.ca

80-year-old Gordon Pinsent offers some advice on the positives of getting older. Video at metronews.ca

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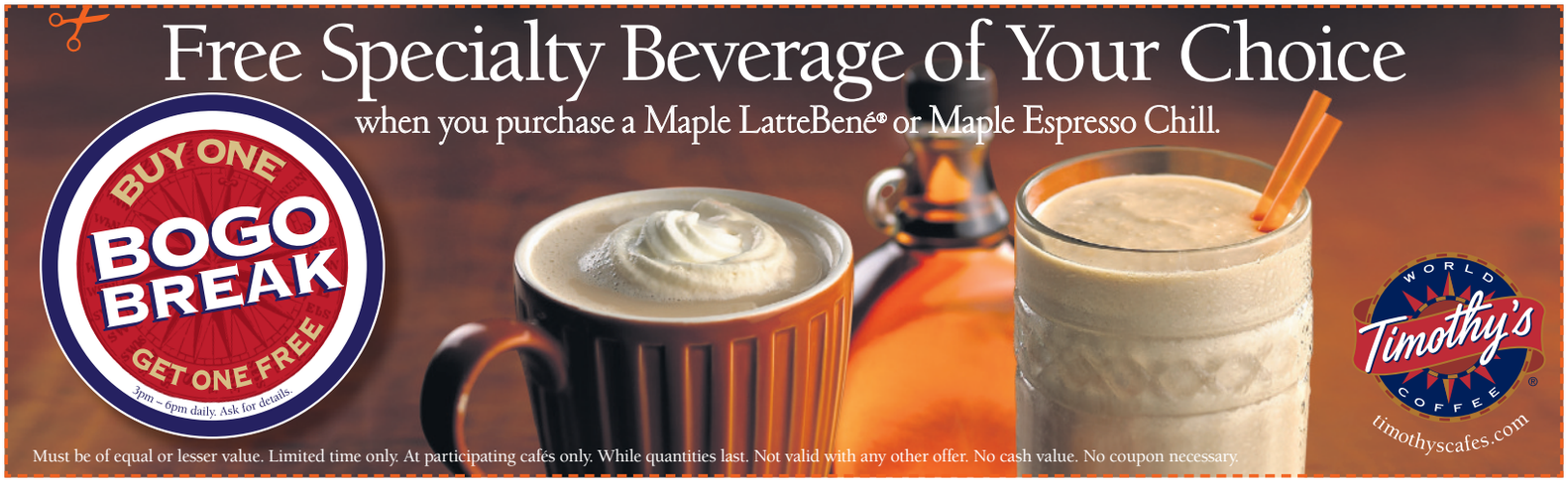


Schools mark 'Day of Pink' for gay students

- Special day will help fight homophobia and celebrate diversity
- More than 50 gay-straight alliances in Toronto's public high schools

Day of Pink

Schools across Greater Toronto have a number of pink day activities planned.

- **Withrow Avenue school** in Riverdale declared the entire week "no name calling week" and has held workshops and assemblies.
- **Day of Pink** began in Nova Scotia in 2007 after a male student was harassed for wearing a pink shirt.
- **Two Grade 12 students** encouraged others to show their support for the bullied student by wearing pink shirts to school.

Two Toronto school trustees are thinking pink.

In honour of the Day of Pink, an international anti-homophobia and anti-bullying initiative that began in Canada a few years ago, they're asking trustees to vote in favour of their agenda to declare the public school board a "gay-straight alliance."

Trustees Cathy Dandy and Howard Goodman were discussing how gay-straight alliances have come under fire from Catholic school boards in Ontario — they won't allow them, preferring broader "equity clubs" — which led to talk about today's pink day.

Today also happens to be their monthly board meeting.

"We thought it would be a powerful statement to say the board itself is a gay-straight alliance," said Dandy.

"It's particularly appropriate to take a stand on being inclusive, respecting diversity and respecting and supporting students and staff in our system."

Toronto's public high schools alone have 50 gay-straight alliances.

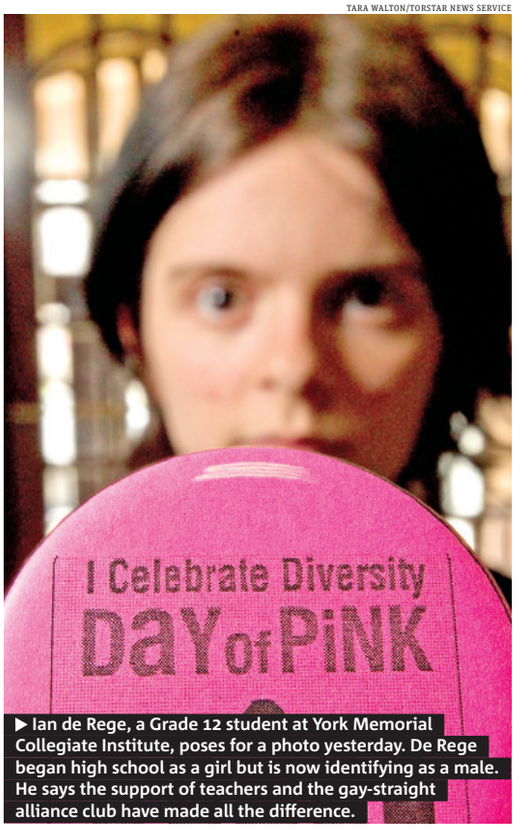
At York Memorial Collegiate Institute, one Grade 12 student said the alliance there — now called a queer-straight alliance — was a lifeline when he was transitioning to male from a female.

"I have really great teachers who have been incredibly supportive; I'm so lucky to have that," said Ian de Rege, 17, adding that fellow students were also accepting.

"Looking back on it now, I don't know how I did it. I started telling people that I wanted to be called Ian ... I was met with such positive responses that I hadn't expected."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ Ian de Rege, a Grade 12 student at York Memorial Collegiate Institute, poses for a photo yesterday. De Rege began high school as a girl but is now identifying as a male. He says the support of teachers and the gay-straight alliance club have made all the difference.

Kittens found injured and abandoned in dumpster

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Dr. Amanda Kolhatkar, of Bay Cat Hospital, performed the surgery on the two kittens that each had their right eye poked out before being abandoned.

The Bay Cat Hospital is a place filled with misfit cats. Cats with seven toes, cats with no home and, for the last week, two kittens with just two eyes between them.

They were found in a dumpster at Bloor and Yonge streets, their right eyes had been poked out. The male kitten had his teeth smashed. That same day — March 28 — an adult cat was found at Woodbine and Danforth avenues. Its right eye was also injured.

"We can't confirm if it was an act of animal cruelty or an accident," said Alison Cross, spokeswoman for the OSPCA. When the cats were found, Toronto Animal Services was called and took in all three felines. It found the owner of the older cat, but the two stray kittens were taken to the Bay Cat Hospital for surgery. Their right eyes have now been removed. No one knows if these kittens have ever belonged to anybody. But they're very popular — someone has already come forward to adopt them.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Metro Square gets new name

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

▶ David Pecaut

At the urging of Mayor Rob Ford, city council unanimously voted to rename the downtown Metro Square after the late city-building guru David Pecaut.

Ford said he didn't personally know Pecaut, but recognized him as a visionary "who gave freely of his time, his energy and his ideas to make Toronto a greater city."

Council voted 42-0 to honour Pecaut, the man behind the Toronto City Summit Alliance and co-founder of Luminato, the annual arts festival.

Pecaut died of cancer at age 54 in December 2009.

His name will now adorn the public space, bounded by Roy Thomson Hall, Metro Hall, King Street West and Wellington Street West.

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DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Retired English teacher Mary Lou Morris and her husband Douglas of Etobicoke received an authentic-looking royal wedding invitation six weeks ago. She can't figure out who sent it.

Blimey! Toronto couple gets fake royal invite

Text matches the real wedding invitation, embossed with Queen's emblem Waterloo couple also pranked

When Mary Lou Morris received an invitation in the mail requesting her and her husband's presence at the marriage of Prince William and his fiancée Kate Middleton, she chuckled.

"At first we thought it was a scam and they'd ask us to send money to attend," said Morris, a retired teacher from Etobicoke. "And then I thought it was a creative wedding invitation, and that it would be followed by the real wedding invitation for one of our friends."

But neither of those theories panned out.

When Morris looked up the real invitations online and saw the remarkable similarities, she allowed herself — for the briefest of moments — to believe she and her husband were invited to the April 29 wedding at Westminster Abbey.

That moment quickly passed.

"Everything about it is identical (to the real one)," said Morris, who received the invitation six weeks ago. "I can't imagine someone went to all that work to copy it."

The envelope and the fake invitation are addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Morris.

But there's no RSVP card. There's also a Canadian stamp on the envelope, but no markings to indicate it went through any sort of postal system, which means it may have been placed in the Morris' mailbox. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police hunt prisoner after courthouse caper

Peel police are still looking for a wily prisoner who slipped through their fingers in a caper worthy of a Matt Damon movie.

"We don't feel embarrassed, but we regret that it happened," Peel spokesperson Const. George Tudos said.

Yul Delano Styles-Lyons attended the A. Grenville and William Davis Courthouse, where he assumed the name of another prisoner and was then released.

And it was only Monday, three days after their deception, that police notified the public. Police say the delay was due to the fact "we didn't know what we had at the time," according to Tudos.

A Canada-wide warrant has been issued for Styles-Lyons and police were urging him to contact a lawyer and make arrangements to turn himself in.

He is considered armed and dangerous.

"We are reviewing the process in which they manipulated the court system to see if there are any improvements we can implement down the road," Tudos said.

Styles-Lyons was arrested for weapons and drug-related offences in February and held in custody at Maplehurst in Milton.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

PEEL POLICE

▶ Yul Delano Styles-Lyons

The mission

Sometime before being escorted to court Friday, Styles-Lyons hatched his plan with cellmate Damian Mills, 28, of Brampton, police allege.

- Styles-Lyons would take the name of Mills, who was facing a charge of assault. Police don't know, or won't explain, what was in it for Mills. He has been charged with assisting an escape.
- After Styles-Lyons pulled his swindle, his handcuffs were moved and he was released to his cell at the courthouse to collect his belongings and sign out. He then walked to freedom.
- Later in court, the real Damian Mills announced his presence, and police realized they had been duped.

Woman charged with attempted murder

A 24-year-old Burlington woman is charged with attempted murder after her brother was stabbed.

Police say they found a 29-year-old man with stab wounds at a Dynes Road home Monday night.

His sister is also charged with failing to comply with a recognizance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto man faces weapons charges

A man faces several weapons-related charges after Toronto police were tipped off about someone with a gun in a downtown neighbourhood. It's alleged officers were in the Sackville Street area Monday when they saw a man who appeared to be armed. Michael Braschuk, 23, of Toronto, faces six charges.

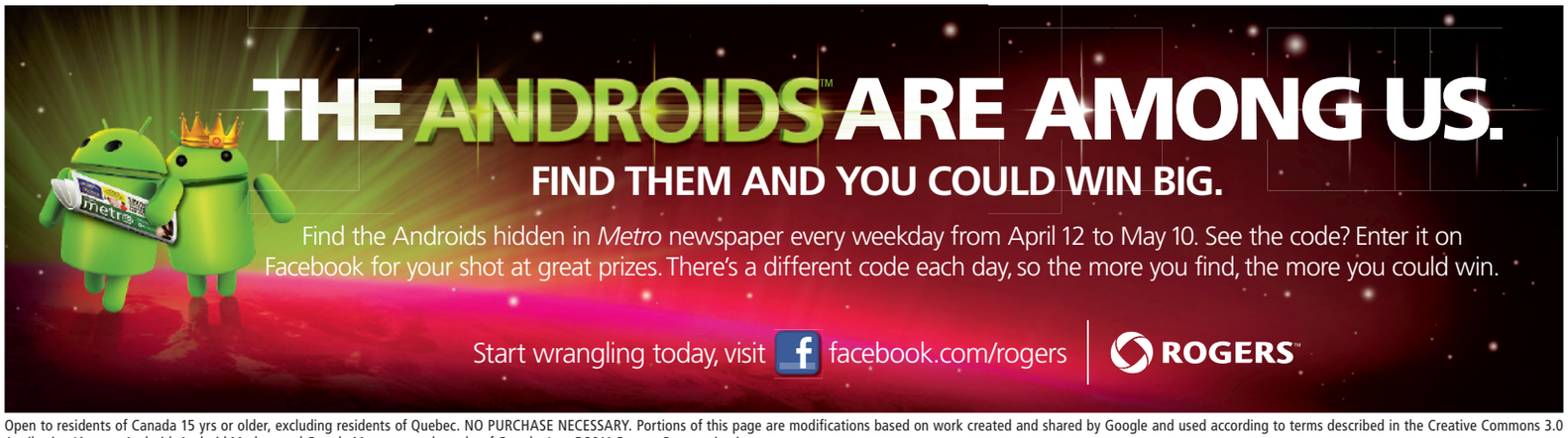
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police Taser man with metal pipe

Durham police say officers used a Taser to subdue a man after they were threatened and assaulted during a domestic dispute in Pickering.

Police say a teenager called 911 Monday night to report a man armed with a metal pipe had broken into a home in the Valley Farm Road and Finch Avenue area looking for a woman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Bodies piling up in Ivory Coast

Suspected Laurent Gbagbo supporters rounded up

The young man in civilian clothes didn't have the right answers for troops loyal to Alassane Ouattara and they suspected he was a fighter backing his rival for the presidency. So one of the soldiers kicked the man in the teeth.

Fifteen minutes later, an Associated Press reporter saw his body, the chest torn open by bullets, dumped outside.

Reprisal killings erupted as Ouattara's fighters made a lightning assault to force his rival, Laurent Gbagbo, from power. Although Gbagbo was captured Monday in Abidjan, Ivory Coast's commercial capital, suspected Gbagbo supporters are still being rounded up in cities and villages, especially in western Ivory Coast.

"Every day the (UN) peacekeepers are collecting and burying bodies," a Catholic priest in San Pedro, too afraid to be named, said. "There is lots of dense bush here. Who knows how many bodies there are." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kidnappings

Parishioners are reporting kidnappings of dozens of young men in San Pedro.

- The port city was attacked by pro-Alassane Ouattara fighters April 1 as Laurent Gbagbo's soldiers were retreating.
- Invaders surrounded a cathedral where 5,000 residents had taken refuge and fired into crowd, a Catholic priest said.

Demanding. Rights

▶ Students react yesterday during clashes with police officers in Algiers.

ANIS BELGHOUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facing batons for right to speak

Thousands of students marched in Algeria's capital to demand the resignation of the education minister in the latest protests to sweep across the Arab world. The students are defying a longtime ban on protests in Algiers.

Radiation threats debated in Japan

Japan ranked its nuclear crisis at the highest possible severity on an international scale — the same level as the 1986 Chornobyl disaster — even as it insisted yesterday that radiation leaks are declining at its tsunami-crippled nuclear plant.

The higher rating is an open acknowledgement of what was widely understood already: The nuclear accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant is the second-worst in history. It does not signal a worsening of the plant's status in recent days or any new health dangers.

Still, people living nearby who have endured a month of spewing radiation and frequent earthquakes said the change in status added to their unease despite government efforts to play down any notion that the crisis poses immediate health risks.

HIRO KOMAE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ People in radiation protection suits walk in J-Village in Naraha, Japan, yesterday at a workers' base for the tsunami-damaged Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant.

Miyuki Ichisawa closed her coffee shop this week when the government added her community, litate village, and four others to places people should leave to avoid long-term radiation exposure. The additions expanded the 20-kilometre zone where people had already been ordered to evacuate after the March 11 tsunami swamped the plant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tsunami victim

The body of a man washed out to sea last month when a tsunami hit the Northern California coast was found in Columbia River, Oregon.

- Dental record identified the body as Dustin Douglas Weber, 25, who disappeared in March.
- Weber was the first person killed by a tsunami on the West Coast since 1964, when 11 people in nearby Crescent City, Calif., died from a surge created by an earthquake

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Missing from photo:
Brenda Butters, Toronto; John Martin, Mississauga; Allison McGhee, London.

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INSIDE

All four debaters had index cards on their lecterns and jotted notes

Election 2011

When they strolled in, for the benefit of the waiting cameras, they appeared the best of friends.

On closer inspection, tight, forced smiles betrayed four fierce rivals girding for the battle to come.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper entered the set — decorated like a 1970s rec room, in bricks of orange and burnt sienna — first, followed by NDP Leader Jack Layton, Bloc Québécois Leader Duceppe and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff.

Duceppe initially went to the wrong lectern — the positions were chosen by lottery well beforehand — before swapping with Ignatieff.

They posed briefly at the podiums before moving into the centre of the stage for a group photo. The group handshake was followed by the customary awkward exchange of pleasantries before retreating to their corners.

Though it wasn't apparent on television, there was a live audience of about 120 people in attendance that remained largely silent until Harper made reference to "the old Jack Layton."

Layton feigned outrage. "Are you calling me old?" The crowd guffawed.

During the debate's open free-for-all segments, which capped six one-on-one face-offs, Duceppe fidgeted at his lectern, drumming his fingers and repeatedly sending the signal that he wanted to jump in.

RCMP officers waited in the wings, watching the audience, which was not subjected to any security checks.

Throughout the night, Harper chose to answer questions from his opponents looking not at his inquisitor, but at the camera. The tactic had Twitter buzzing before the debate was half over.

Another Harper habit: He spent much of the night rocking back on his heels — literally, if not metaphorically.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Filmmaker guilty of murder matching script

AMANDA MCROBERTS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ A sketch of accused murderer Mark Twitchell testifing last week during his trial in Edmonton.

An aspiring Edmonton filmmaker has been convicted of murdering and dismembering a stranger in a plot that matched a movie script.

Mark Twitchell admitted he accidentally killed Johnny Altinger in October 2008 in a publicity hoax gone wrong.

But the jury opted to convict Twitchell on the original charge of first-degree murder.

The Crown argued Twitchell lured Altinger to a rented garage, killed him, cut him up and dumped the remains down a sewer.

The death matched a murder in a slasher movie Twitchell had filmed and which he wrote about on his laptop.

Twitchell testified he got Altinger to come to the garage by pretending to be a date the man had met on the Internet.

But he said Altinger got angry when he found out he had been tricked and fought with Twitchell, who plunged a knife into his heart in self-defence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE DEBATE

CHRIS WATTIE/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Prime Minister Stephen Harper, left, New Democratic Party Leader Jack Layton, Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, and Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe take part in a televised English language debate last night in Ottawa.

Best and worst

- **Best Tie:** A tie between Conservative Leader Stephen Harper's and NDP Leader Jack Layton's bold striped numbers showed personality.
- **Best Overall Combo:** Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe's grey pinstriped suit, with matching paisley tie.
- **Best Zinger In A One-On-One Debate:** Duceppe — "I would first like to congratulate Mr. Harper for answering a question from a citizen for the first time in this campaign."
- **Worst Message Track:** Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff appeared to lose gas when listing his usual criticisms against "jets, jails, and corporate tax cuts" in the last 14 minutes of the debate.
- **Worst Verbal Stumble In A One-On-One:** Harper — "What matters now is not bickering that goes on in Parliament." Prompted Ignatieff retort: "It isn't bickering. It's about Parliament. It's democracy."
- **Best Line In A Four-Way Debate:** Layton — "I don't know why we need more prisons when the crooks are so happy in the Senate."
- **Best Post-Debate Spin:** Came from both the Liberals and NDP, who emailed spin to reporters as the debate was unfolding, long before it was over.
- **Worst Debate Spin:** Conservatives who emailed a "reality check" on Duceppe's strategy before the debate began.

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▶ Britain's Prince William, accompanied by his fiancée Kate Middleton, arrives at Witton Country Park, Darwen, England, yesterday. Prince William and Kate Middleton will marry April 29. If any of Will and Kate's children were to marry Catholics, they would lose their spots in the lineup for the throne.

Female royals get a raw deal

Princesses only get to be queen if they don't have a brother Protestants rule the British monarchy

To the upwardly mobile in the Royal Family, being an older sister is a wretched inconvenience.

If Prince William and Kate Middleton have a daughter followed by a son, the son leapfrogs the daughter on the waiting list for the throne.

Although Queen Elizabeth II rocks the throne, she snagged it only because she has no brother, since British common law gives preference to male issue.

So if William and Kate have a girl and then a boy, there's bound to be trouble:

"I don't care if Grandpa Charles is taking you hunting, Alice. I'm going to be king before you'll ever be queen. You'll have to wait for me and my children to die!"

"Mummy, Wilberforce is taunting me again with antiquated succession laws!"

The 1701 Act of Settlement throws in another snag. If any of Will and Kate's children were to marry Catholics, they would lose their spots in the lineup for the throne.

That religious discrimination came out of the Glorious Revolution. King James II, who had converted to Catholicism before his 1685 coronation, had a son with his second wife, and a Catholic dynasty loomed.

After being unseated by William of Orange, James fled to France, and his Catholic children grew up in exile. His two Protestant daughters, Mary and Anne, sided against their father and served successively as queen, but none of their children survived.

Parliament wanted to make sure King James' Catholic offspring didn't ascend to the throne, so it whipped up the Act of Settlement. Protestants have ruled the British monarchy since, and women only in the absence of a brother.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TIM HALES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Converting for love? Or just to be bit closer to the throne

When Peter Phillips, son of Princess Anne and her first husband, Capt. Mark Phillips, married Canadian Autumn Kelly in 2008, she converted to Anglicanism from Catholicism so her husband wouldn't forfeit his 11th place in line.

If succession was based on birth order and not gender (i.e., his mother's), Peter would be fifth.

Meanwhile, Princess Anne has two younger brothers who are ahead of her, along with their children of both genders, which puts her in 10th place.

The rules are not easy to change. All 16 of the Commonwealth countries where the Queen is head of state have to be on board.

So if William and Kate have a daughter and then a son, the Commonwealth is going to have a long talk.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Peter Phillips and Canadian Autumn Kelly leave St. George's Chapel in Windsor, England, after their marriage ceremony in May 2008.

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Terry Fox. Run

PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Offering hope 31 years later

A piper leads a group of Canadian Olympic and Paralympic medallists yesterday as they visit the Terry Fox Mile 0 Park in St. John's, N.L., to mark the 31st anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope.

Survey says: I'll take my news from the Net

- Study gauges how Canadians consume news
- Most choose Internet over all other forms of media

A survey suggests most Canadians value their Internet access over their TV, cellphone and newspaper subscriptions.

And if they could keep just one service, they would stay online.

The Canadian Media Research Consortium, based out of the University of British Columbia, commissioned the online survey and found 42 per cent of respondents said the Internet would be the last service they would cut. Twenty four per cent said they would keep their cable TV and 17 per cent each would keep their cellphone service or newspaper subscription. The results, released yesterday, are part of a larger survey conducted last August to gauge how Canadians are getting their news and information, said consortium spokesman Darryl Korell.

"What we were trying to do was find out going forward how Canadians want to consume news, because there are many new business models that people are trying to come up with to find out how we're going to be able to afford to provide the journalism that we need," Korell said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario's radiation levels up, but don't worry

Higher-than-normal radiation levels have been detected in Ontario since last month's earthquake and tsunami created huge problems at some of Japan's nuclear reactors.

Energy Minister Brad Duguid doesn't have any details whether the higher radiation levels were found in water, air or food, but he said there is nothing to be overly concerned about because the levels are still too low to impact human health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cheap flights could take wing with new airline

Air Canada discount carrier would aim at rivals Transat, Sunwing, WestJet and could push fares down

Air Canada's reported plans to launch a discount carrier could dish up competitive headaches for its rivals and lower airfares to vacation spots in Mexico, the Caribbean and Europe, industry analysts say.

Chris Murray of PI Financial Corp. says a new airline would ramp up pressure on the industry to reduce fares, at least until a rival is driven out of business.

"In the short run there may be some bargains, though I wouldn't expect it to be driving fares down to the craziness like we've seen before, the $1 to London flights," he says.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 195.46 (13,801.4)	– 0.72¢ (103.83¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
– $3.67 US ($106.25 US)	1,000 cu ft $4.064 US (– 4¢ US)
	Gold contracts
	$1,453.60 US (– $14.50 US)

Air Canada is reportedly drawing up a plan to deploy four Boeing 767s and six Airbus A319s, with the fleet increasing to 50 planes. The delivery of 37 Boeing 787 Dreamliners would allow the airline to transfer older planes to the new airline.

Neither Air Canada nor the pilots' and employees' unions would comment on the rumours.

But Pierre Tessier, spokesman for Transat AT, said consumers stand to benefit if the new carrier adds more seats to the market. "There's always been a lot of competition in the market and we're used to that," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Zipcar. IPO

▶ A Zipcar customer swipes an electronic "key" over a sensor in the windshield to unlock his rental car. The car-sharing company is planning an initial public offering this week.

JOSH REYNOLDS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From car share to market share

Zipcar Inc., the car-sharing company that rents rides for as little as one hour, is expected to get a warm reception for its planned initial public offering this week. The IPO's value would total about $125 million US. Supporters believe skyrocketing gas prices will make car sharing more popular.

No rate hike for now, central bank decrees

The Bank of Canada will keep the policy rate at one per cent for another seven weeks. The decision yesterday came despite a mostly upbeat assessment of the economy that predicts faster growth and a quicker return to full capacity. The bank's next date for an interest rate bulletin is May 31. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bright future

▶ **Canada's economy will** grow 2.9 per cent this year, the Bank of Canada says. As well, the economy will return to full capacity in a little more than a year, six months earlier than previously predicted.

Canadians refuse to pay for news

More than 80 per cent of Canadians would choose no news over paying for news online, a University of British Columbia survey suggests. Researchers say the results are a red flag to news outfits considering erecting paywalls around their sites. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Housing growth expected to stabilize

Modest home price gains predicted for most Canadian cities Possible interest rate hike has fostered uncertainty in real estate market

Home prices across the country are expected to stabilize or only creep higher this year amid "tepid" improvements in employment, says a new report by Royal LePage.

Phil Soper, chief executive of Royal LePage Real Estate Services, says that in most markets, single-digit percentage increases are more likely for the balance of the year.

The more modest increases predicted for 2011 come after bigger price jumps in recent years fuelled by low mortgage rates and solid consumer confidence.

"While low interest rates continue to drive demand, the tepid pace at which employment levels are improving is tempering the rate of home price appreciation in many Canadian cities," Soper says.

"We expect house prices will continue to creep up, but most of the excess demand created by the initial drop in interest rates has been satisfied."
PHIL SOPER, ROYAL LEPAGE REAL ESTATE SERVICES

In the first quarter of 2011, the pace of growth for housing prices was markedly uneven.

In Vancouver, prices rose about 10 per cent in the past year — approaching $1.1 million for a two-storey home — nearly three times the national average. Meanwhile, a two-storey house in Toronto rose by 2.5 per cent to $589,929 and a similar house in Halifax increased 7.1 per cent to $298,000.

That compared with a drop of 2.1 per cent in Calgary for a similar house to $423,122. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Price mark

- **The Canadian national** average price of a detached bungalow rose 4.3 per cent year-over-year to $341,355.
- **A standard two-storey** home rose 3.5 per cent to $379,388.
- **A standard condominium** rose four per cent to $237,919.
- **In Vancouver, a limited** supply of homes for sale, low interest rates and demand from buyers from China continued to drive up prices, with the cost of a two-storey house up 9.7 per cent from a year ago to nearly $1.1 million.

Phone-A-Lawyer Free Legal Phoneline | Thursday April 14, 2011

Ontario Bar Association lawyers, in the Toronto area, will be accepting phone calls to answer questions and provide free legal information to the public on Law Day – Thursday, April 14, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Existing files are excluded from this service.

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ALERT

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

DON'T MESS WITH MAMA

Bolivia may be one of the poorest places on Earth, but it's rich in at least one commodity: Legislation.

It's about to pass the Mother of All Laws giving Mother Nature equal rights to human beings. In Bolivia, Ms. Nature goes by Pachamama, an Andean deity that is at the centre of all life. As soon as the law is passed — and pass it will because the ruling party has what Stephen Harper most desires: A majority in both houses of Parliament — Pachamama will gain 11 shiny new rights.

Most of them are pretty basic: The right to life and to exist; the right to continue all her various cycles, from carbon to Krebs, without human interference; the right to pure water and clean air; the right not to be polluted; the right to balance; and the right not to be genetically altered.

Then there's this: Pachamama will enjoy the right "not to be affected by mega-infrastructure and development projects that affect the balance of ecosystems and the local inhabitant communities."

The guys who run the resource companies are howling with boyish laughter. You see, Bolivia has its own brown skeletons in its own sooty closet. More than one-third of its foreign currency comes from the mining of tin, silver, gold, etc., and you can bet Pachamama is feeling more than a little violated on that front.

When you're the world's 100th ranked economy, below Trinidad and Tobago and Turkmenistan, for goodness sake, it's tough to resist the temptation of all that glitters. Without precious metals, Bolivia's largest export is ... soybeans and natural gas, a potent combination for sure.

Ecuador has already tried something like this, but that hasn't stopped anyone from plundering the Amazon. You have to wonder why they even bother — they're just going to end up making themselves depressed as they continue to pollute and genetically modify until one day Pachamama decides to take the law into her own hands.

That may be what's motivating Bolivia: It's not nice to fool Pachamama and she is already showing signs of losing her legendary maternal patience: Bolivian scientists predict temperatures will rise up to 4 C over the next 100 years, all the glaciers will melt and Bolivia will become a desert.

So rather than risk the loss of her affections altogether, all they can do is promise to try to nurture nature. And if they break their promise, she can always complain to the newly established Ministry of Mother Earth.

Good luck with that.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Worth mentioning

LONDON. Is there a science of happiness?

A growing band of economists, politicians and academics thinks so — and is putting theory into practice by starting a "mass movement for a happier society."

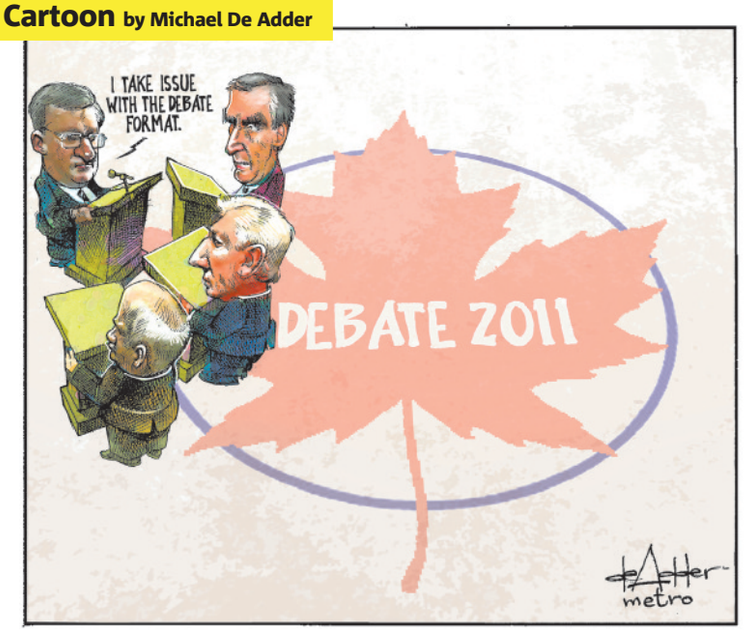
Action for Happiness launched yesterday in London, encouraging hugging, meditation and random acts of kindness. It is getting underway as the British government asks statisticians to measure the economically battered nation's well-being.

The non-profit group's founders include a former Downing Street policy chief, Tony Blair's biographer and an eminent economist. They say happiness is a deeply serious issue.

Co-founder Richard Layard, emeritus professor of economics at the London School of Economics, says the group "doesn't have any creed or dogma. It's a secular movement, grounded in science."

Increasing numbers of politicians are taking up that mantra. Prime Minister David Cameron has said "it's time we focused not just on GDP but on GWB — general well-being." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Cartoon by Michael De Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Snakes on a plain

Instead of a snake in the grass, it was a snake under the sink.

A 75-year-old Winnipeg man got a slithery surprise Saturday after he discovered a six-foot snake under his bathroom sink in his apartment.

The man called police, who notified the city's animal services department, which in turn captured the creature.

Police said they then searched the rest of the building and discovered a suite with more than 50 snakes and other reptiles being hoarded by a 33-year-old man.

Nine snakes believed to be illegal have since been seized and the man is facing charges under the City of Winnipeg exotic animal bylaw.

A spokesperson for the City of Winnipeg animal services department said the majority of snakes or reptiles seized are given to reptile zoos or shelters. Police said there was nothing to indicate the snakes or reptiles, which included a snapping turtle, were being mistreated.

Under Winnipeg's exotic animal bylaw, there is no set number for how many reptiles one person may own, however, venomous reptiles or snakes are illegal in Winnipeg.

ELISHA DACEY

metro life panel

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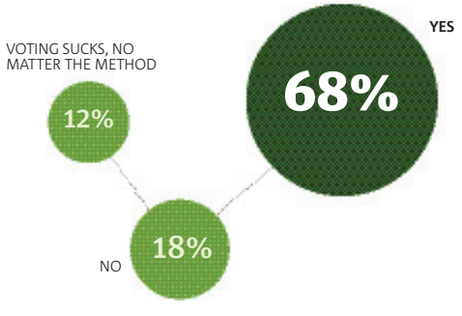

Local tweets

- **@charlie sheen:** Toronto! The SHEENIUS after-party: Thursday after show at MUZIK!! Looking forward to #WINNING with all the TORONTONIANS!
- **@TDotOpenLetter:** Dear @TOMayorFord, I'm starting to see your end game. When do you intend to propose Toronto change its name to South Barrie?
- **@stotch326:** Odd Future in Toronto! I just screamed like a little girl.
- **@meglikesbikes:** Is it just spring or are all the bike boys in Toronto just really attractive?
- **@scggrant:** Congrats #ManU, you've won right to lose CL Final to a Spanish team. I'm going to drink with 1st homeless man I see in downtown Toronto.
- **@arenout:** I get butterflies in my stomach whenever I think of Toronto. Must be love.
- **@bigdealdawson:** Soooooo when are the pools in #ToRonTo opening??????
- **@porrettaa:** I'm actually wearing shorts in Canafreeziaa Toronto :o ! With a possibility of tanning! No way! :O :D

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2 scene

FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Actress Neve Campbell arrives at the premiere of the Weinstein Company's Scream 4 at Grauman's Chinese Theatre.

15 years of screams

Neve Campbell talks about making Scream 4, and the newcomers to the horror franchise

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Despite how successful the Scream franchise has been for her, Neve Campbell hasn't become an old pro at watching horror movies.

"I usually cover my eyes and scream and cry during horror films," she admits.

But just because her eyes are covered doesn't mean she isn't enjoying herself. "These films are a roller coaster ride," she says of the Scream films. "I think they're great fun to watch."

They're just as much fun to make, she insists, and filming Scream 4 last summer was no different.

"We were having fun during the filming," she says of re-teaming with David Arquette, Courteney Cox and director Wes Craven.

"We would often just go and have dinner and a nice glass of wine and have some laughs, so even during it you're not feeling like it's this really intense experience or dark experience, because there's a lot of humor in these films as well. You can't take them incredibly seriously. Part of the fun of these is that they're so self-referential and make fun of themselves."

"You can't take them incredibly seriously. Part of the fun of these is that they're so self-referential and make fun of themselves."
NEVE CAMPBELL ON THE SCREAM FRANCHISE

Although it's been 15 years since Scream — and 11 years since Scream 3 — it didn't take Campbell long to get back in the Woodsboro groove.

"It's been 15 years now we've been doing these characters, so not difficult to jump into," she says. "I had fun watching the films again before we started this, just to get a sense of it, and it was really nice to see that they still hold up really well. But no, it wasn't difficult to get into the characters. With Sidney, it's just imagining her circumstances in doing it."

And while working with Cox and Arquette again was a treat, Campbell was particularly impressed with her younger co-stars, including franchise newcomers Hayden Panettiere and Emma Roberts.

"Courteney and I looked at each other and were like, 'We could be their mothers,'" Campbell says with a laugh.

"But they were good. They came with so much enthusiasm to the project. People keep asking whether we had to show them the ropes, and they're professionals in their own rights. They've had long careers already at young ages, and they came in and they did a great job."

Comic book Cage

A valuable comic featuring the debut of Superman has re-surfaced in a storage locker, and police said Monday that it appears to be the same one stolen from Nicolas Cage more than a decade ago. The mint copy of Action Comics No. 1 was in police custody after being found last week in a San Fernando Valley storage locker. An investigation into its theft and recovery is under way.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barney's Version' scribe wins Writers Guild of Canada screenwriting award

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Getting ready for their goodbye

The Harry Potter cast reflects on their years at Hogwarts and shares their memories from growing up Potter

MEREDITH ENGEL
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

It's an exciting time to be a Potter-head.

The final installment of the film series is just three months away, and the second-to-last movie drops on Blu-Ray Combo Pack, DVD and Digital Download yesterday.

We caught up with cast members at the recently-opened Harry Potter: The Exhibition in New York.

On growing up in the Potter films

Bonnie Wright (Ginny Weasley): "It's been a massive and amazing experience. I don't think we could have asked for any better environment to be in to be learning from others."

On who had a penchant for the set's souvenirs

Producer David Heyman: "Alan Rickman stole more props than anybody …(but) he does give them to charity."

On getting the part

Robbie Coltrane (Hagrid): "My children (told me) if I didn't play Hagrid I would not be allowed home again."

David Thewlis (Remus Lupin): "I auditioned actually for Professor Quirrel and didn't get it. And I'm very glad because he died in the first film."

On their very first days on set

Michael Gambon (Dumbledore): "I was just petrified … But you just fight your way through it."

Domhnall Gleeson (Bill Weasley): "I nearly wet myself. You can tell (I was) the new guy on set because (I had) a wand in the corner going, 'Poof!'"

JASON KEMPIN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Actor Oliver Phelps, actress Bonnie Wright and actor James Phelps share their thoughts on the franchise.

Evanna Lynch (Luna Lovegood): "I wasn't an actor; I was just a huge fan. I remember (Daniel Radcliffe) knew that I was a nervous wreck … I had to ask him, 'Can I just touch you?'"

Producer David Baron: "(Daniel) was always really aware of the newcomers and went to great lengths to make them feel comfortable."

On the action in the eighth movie

Baron: "When you have a wand it's actually quite difficult to stage action in a way that feels suitably strong and aggressive."

Natalia Tena (Tonks): "Shouting swear words while you're using the wand helps."

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4 N's in NOW Magazine

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No more vegan, for now

Pregnant Natalie Portman gives in to her desire for dairy

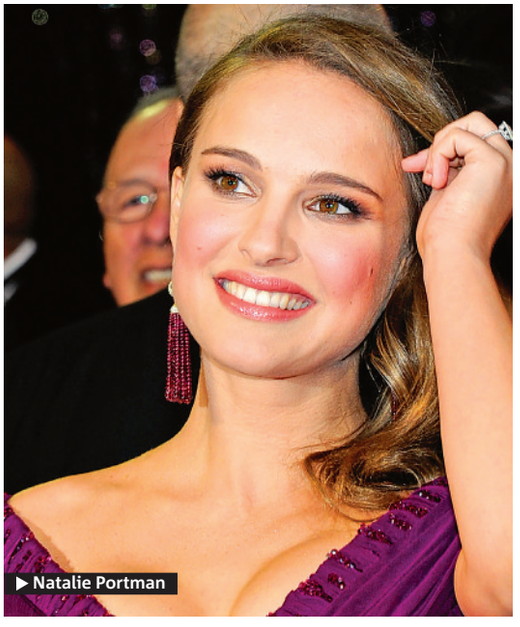
Though a self-proclaimed "vegan activist," Natalie Portman admits she's strayed from her diet's strict rules while pregnant.

"I actually went back to being vegetarian when I became pregnant, just because I felt like I wanted that stuff. I was listening to my body to have eggs and dairy and that sort of stuff," Portman says in an interview.

"I actually wanted eggs at the beginning and then they grossed me out after awhile. I know there are people who do stay vegan, but I think you have to just be careful, watch your iron levels and your B12 levels and supplement those if there are things you might be low in your diet."

METRO

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE



▶ Natalie Portman

Celebrity tweets

@kathygriffin

"Yes, I know I am in "AC" the same night as Charlie Sheen. When Warlocks & Witches collide! When is the Gary Busey tour???"

@TomArnold

"Let's make Eddie Murphy tour again!"

@JennyMcCarthy

"Hey George Clooney, where's Japans telethon?"

@ConanOBrien

"Do you have any idea how many Americans think that the Ivory Coast conflict is soap-based?"

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Renowned dancer and choreographer Dave St-Pierre is always on the go, but he loves his home city ◗ The dance pioneer guides us through his favourite parts of Montreal

A dancer's Montreal

Every time I come back to Montreal after a few months outside of the country, I say: "OK, I'm home." Actually, Montreal is like a landmark for me. Maybe more than a home, 'cause I could live anywhere. But it feels good to be back here. Every time. Montreal is comforting.

Montreal is like a family. People are open-minded, it's not strange to see two men or two women walking hand-in-hand. Montrealers are friendly. That's probably why tourists miss the city so much when they're back home. Yes they missed the city — because there is a lot of things to do here — but they mostly miss the Montrealers. They miss our energy.

We're also very emotive. We're intense in everything we do. Maybe it's because we have such extremes in our weather — from very cold in the winter to very hot in the summer.

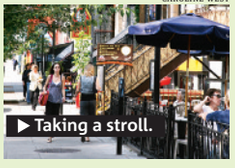
DAVID ST-PIERRE

CANADIAN TOURISM COMMISSION

▶ Cheesy but fun, a horse-drawn 'caleche' tour of the city

First time?

CAROLINE WEST



▶ Taking a stroll.

A walk in Old Montreal is a must. Try it by day and by night. The Basilique Notre-Dame, the Marché Bonsecours, the old Silos, the Old Port, you have to see it all. Walk in the narrowest alleys to discover this part of the city that is from another time. Le Pointe à Callière Museum (pacmusee.qc.ca) — about Montreal's history — is very interesting too. It may sound a bit cheesy, but step back in time and try a calèche tour. The guides will have great, unique stories for you about the city.

Been there before?

Take a look at the Belgo building (372 Rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest), where you'll find a lot of art galleries, fashion designers, artists and architects studios and the well-known school dance LADMMI. It's the perfect place to see what's happening in Montreal's art scene and to discover new artists.

Another great place is the Modern Art Museum (macm.org). It's not the Guggenheim, but it's always interesting to spend the afternoon there. Don't be afraid to go in the art galleries too.

Yves Laroche (yveslaroche.com) on Saint-Laurent is a very good one.

If you want to see a dance show, head to the La Chapelle Theater (lachapelle.org). They are offering astounding things right now. They aren't scared to go off the beaten track.

▶ Dance at Lachapelle

▶ Bily Kun

Stay in

Come to my loft! It's nice and cosy. But there won't be enough room for everyone. But seriously, I would choose a warm bed and breakfast over an impersonal hotel.

Go out

I would suggest an Open Mic evening at a bar like HELM on Bernard Street in the very hipster Mile-End neighbourhood. There are a lot of cool bars on Mont-Royal Avenue too like Bily Kun, Verre Bouteille or Plan B.

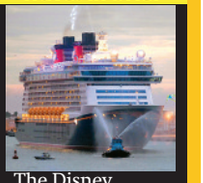
▶ Monastiraki

Shopping!

Go to Boulevard Saint-Laurent, nicknamed the "Main." You'll find a lot of great places from chic boutiques to cool antique shops. My favourite place is Monastiraki (monastiraki.blogspot.com), a small gallery and shop with odd objects, vintage posters and books from contemporary cartoonists.

3 life

Travel in brief



The Disney Cruise Line will set sail from New York, Seattle, and Galveston, Texas, beginning next year. The company said it will offer 20 cruises from New York City aboard the Disney Magic starting on May 25, 2012.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New website promises beachfront hotels will really be on the beach

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Discovering Seattle

Pacific coast city has enough charm and interesting spots to have visitors coming back for more

For travellers who make the popular road trip along the Pacific Northwest coast, Seattle is known as one of the mandatory big-city destinations along the way.

But there are enough secret, charming and historical spots throughout the city, begging to be discovered, to make it a great stand-alone destination.

Take the Experience Music Project as just one example. It's an unavoidable tourist destination, due entirely to the perplexing multicoloured structure of the building, which architect Frank Gehry modelled after the interiors of a guitar.

Yet, while the highly interactive rock 'n' roll museum is famous for its three-storey art installation, made entirely of guitars, and its tribute to Jimi Hendrix, it's also home to another little-known yet equally compelling destination: the Science Fiction Museum.

For any true fan of the genre — and it's safe to say there are many of them out there — this spot will provide plenty of entertainment, although sections are currently closed for the preparation of the upcoming Avatar exhibit, scheduled for June 2011.

There's still lots to take in. The museum's current feature is Battlestar Galactica: The Exhibition, a selection of props and costumes from the iconic show, which originally aired in 1978 and then was revamped as a new series in 2003.

One warning before visiting the museum: the floor plan of the Experience Music Project could easily have been modelled after rock 'n' roll itself. It's often hard to wrap your head around and easy to get lost. Be sure to refer to the museum's program guide.

If you're looking for another destination to stimulate your senses, treat yourself to a tour of the Theo chocolate factory located in Fremont, a neighbourhood famous for its giant Lenin statue.

The chocolate company, which produces up to 128,000 bars per week, bills itself as the "first certified organic and fair trade chocolate maker in the United States," among other things.

"We're a true bean-to-bar maker," said Dana Kemmerling, the compa-

TED S. WARREN/THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

▶ A sequined glove and jacket worn by Michael Jackson on display at the Experience Music Project museum in Seattle.

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DEAN RUTZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS/ AP- THE SEATTLE TIMES

▶ The Smith Tower in downtown Seattle, lower right, once the tallest building west of Ohio, is dwarfed by taller buildings now, as seen in 2007. There's seemingly endless charming and historical secret spots throughout the city, begging to be discovered.

ny's national events manager.

That means they make chocolate bars and truffles from scratch, using imported, fair trade cocoa beans. Melters, on the other hand, purchase chocolate couverture, melt it down and then add other flavouring.

Visitors to the five-year-old chocolate factory are taken on a one-hour tour, which starts with a 20-minute educational segment about where cocoa beans actually come from and ends at the machine that turns the chocolate into bars.

"There's very few chocolate factories where you can get as up-close and personal as you do here. You learn so much," said Kemmerling. "Most folks don't realize that chocolate comes from the seed of a fruit."

Not to mention the generous samples provided along the way, which start with the company's purest bar (read: bitter) to its sweetest. Theo's tours have proven to be a real hit with both tourists and local residents.

"We've definitely become a destination location," said Kemmerling. "We have some pretty diehard fans who've come on this tour eight or nine times." THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go ...

On the web. More information on Seattle and its attractions can be found at empsfm.org, smithtower.com, theochocolate.com, visitseattle.org.

Smith Tower and marriage

If you're looking for a more historical, and panoramic, perspective of the city, head over to the Smith Tower, located in downtown Seattle.

Built in 1914 by tycoon Lyman Cornelius Smith, the 42-floor building was the fourth tallest in the world, making it the only skyscraper outside of New York. Smith was a manufacturer who'd taken his products, which included firearms and typewriters, to China.

The Chinese were so thrilled that they gave him a hand carved ceiling and black carved wood furniture which now decorate the tower's big selling feature — the Chinese Room and observatory deck.

There's one piece of furniture in the Chinese Room in the Smith Tower that has many single women making the trip up the tower. The 330-year-old Wishing Chair is said to guarantee any single woman sincerely desiring marriage will be hitched within a year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Barcelo Bavaro Palace (4)	1227	1275	1312	1396	1316	1416
Barcelo Dominican Beach (3+)	1122	1145	1180	1225	1180	1270
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Peggy's Cove turns 200 years old

On the 200th anniversary of Nova Scotia's picture-perfect village by the sea, Peggy's Cove resident Roger Crooks says he'll celebrate the simple life of the past, while lobbying for a future fix-up.

Crooks, 74, is among the 40 remaining full-time residents of this community, famed for its landscape of stark granite boulders, crashing Atlantic seas and the lighthouse on the windworn rocks of Peggy's Point.

Two hundred years ago, King George III issued land grants to the six founding families who settled the area.

Crooks has kept a clipping from a journalist who visited the village in 1934, in the early days of tourism, and wrote of its caring and proud residents.

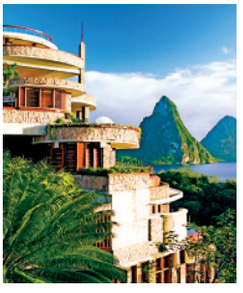
Starting April 18 and every third Monday following, visitors can attend geology walks that explain the giant boulders known as "erratics" that cover the glacially scoured granite landscape.

There will also be a natural history walk titled Tiptoe through the Tide Pool on June 11 and a Peggy's Cove Road Arts Festival from July 1 to July 14.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

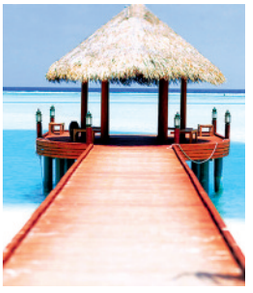
Royal honeymoons

Three super-sweet spots inspired by Kate and William and their need for private luxury



Jade Mountain Resort, St. Lucia

Located on Morne Chastanet, overlooking St. Lucia's Pitons and the Caribbean Sea, Jade Mountain has 24 incredible private Infinity Pool Sanctuaries. It's also tech-free — no phones, radios, TVs or computers.



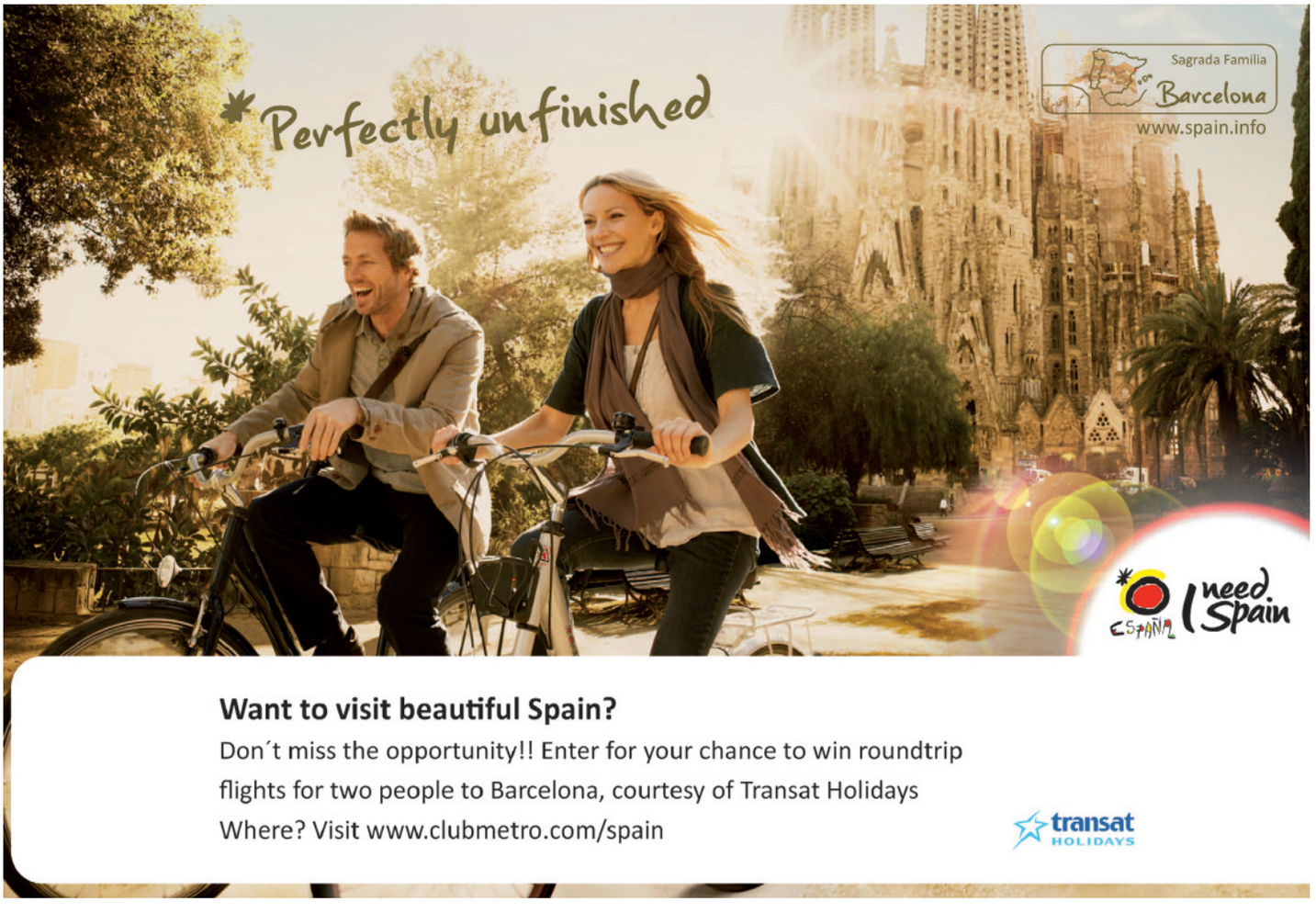
Anantara Dhigu Resort & Spa, Maldives

This property features over-water suites, luxury villas and beach bungalows, all perfect places for newlyweds to nest.

Parrot Cay, Turks & Caicos

Built on a private island of 100-acres, Parrot Cay is renown for its beautiful beach, and as an amazing place to indulge in relaxation and romance.

ALISON MCGILL/ WEDDINGBELLS.CA



Off-season fun in Whistler

Winter Olympics site has plenty to offer in summer as well Great mountain biking for the adrenaline junkie, or hiking for the rest of us

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN
DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

Ever since the 2010 Winter Olympics put Whistler B.C. on the map, hardcore skiers and boarders from all over the world have been flocking to this alpine village for the world class slopes. But Whistler in the so called "off season" is also sky rocketing in popularity.

When the slopes close for skiers, it's not long until they're wide open for some of the most exciting mountain-biking on the planet.

Now , I consider myself an avid cycler, but heading down these adrenaline fuelled trails is something else. As I whipped down the tight and twisty, descending trails, I was glad to be wearing a plethora of padding. Unlike some daredevils I witnessed, I tended to ride the breaks a bit, partly due to my cowardice, and mostly to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

You'd be hard pressed to find a more visually beautiful ride. I even spotted a couple of black bears wandering the hills as I sped downward. There's over 4,900 feet of gravity fed, lift-serviced trails, and one-day lift tickets for you and your bike, start around $50. Well worth the money for this thrill ride.

If wheels aren't your thing, spring and summer hiking in Whistler is nothing short of spectacular. Eighteen different mountain top trails offer challenges to the experienced hiker or the beginner. The "peak to peak" Gondola experience offers some beautiful alpine routes, including the Highnote Trail on Whistler mountain and the Overlord trail on Blackcomb mountain.

You can even pick up a picnic lunch at a mountain top restaurant before setting out on your journey. What a great way to spend a Spring day. Who needs all those icy moguls?

FLICKR: COURTNEY NASH

▶ Once the snow melts, adventure seekers in Whistler put down their skis and grab their bikes.

DARREN PARKMAN

▶ Darren Parkman tries his hand at downhill mountain biking.

Whistler fun

Other cool things to do in Whistler:

- **Dine in the Alpine.** Chow down in the open air at 6,000 feet on mouth-watering chicken and corn on the cob. There are BBQ's every weekend in spring and summer.
- **Take a bear-watching tour.** Experience glaciers, wildlife, and catch a glimpse of one of the 50 black bears living in the area, all from a 4x4 mountain truck. You can even visit special bear feeding sites.

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Heading to Europe on the cheap

Bargain hunters could find some good deals in four European countries badly hit by the economic downturn: Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain

▶ The Temple of Zeus in Athens, Greece. The economic woes in Greece could make visiting there more affordable.

Airfares have repeatedly risen this year, the euro is still strong, and Europe's economic crisis is still rattling financial markets. North Americans planning their summer vacations could well ask what's the point of going to Europe this year?

But savvy tourists considering the continent might also be wondering if there are bargains to be had, especially in the four European countries worst hit by the economic crisis — Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain. These struggling nations rely heavily on tourism revenue, and they are working hard to boost this sector of their economies.

On the plus side, travel agents are seeing potential bargains in these countries in everything from airfares, hotels and restaurants, to in-country transportation and visits to key tourist sites. The agents also regard these four nations as potentially cheaper to visit this summer than three other top tourist European destinations: Britain, France and Italy.

"We have a resource that is better than oil: our weather, our landscapes, our culture and our gastronomy, which are unlike any other in the world," Spain's Industry, Trade and Tourism Minister Miguel Sebastian said. "Petroleum," he said, "will run out, but tourism has no reason to do so."

One potential advantage in these tourist destinations could be the price of a flight there.

"When I look at our summer booking data, at least based on airfare, Spain, Portugal and Ireland are relative bargains," said Genevieve Shaw Brown, a senior official at Travelocity.com. North Americans

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Halifax one-way $129
Travel May 11/ac — + taxes & fees $73

London $142
Travel Jun 16 - Jun 24/ts — + taxes & fees $482

Aruba $199
Travel Apr 17 - May 1/qk — + taxes & fees $282

Vancouver $229
Travel Jun 14 - Jun 20/wg — + taxes & fees $298

Chicago $258
Travel May 11 - May 18/ac — + taxes & fees $120

Bermuda $268
Travel May 11 - May 18/ac — + taxes & fees $145

Madrid $399
Travel Jun 12 - Jun 20/ts — + taxes & fees $386

Sydney $979
Travel Aug 30 - Sep 14/ua — + taxes & fees $539

North America

Las Vegas Air + 4 Nights $335
Imperial Palace — + taxes & fees $147
INCLUDES accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Jun 19/swg/wg. UPGRADE to 4-star Monte Carlo for $20 per night.

California Air + 7-Day Car $539
+ taxes & fees $126
INCLUDES air to San Francisco, return from Los Angeles and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage. Departs Jun 12/ggv/ac.

Vancouver Air + 4 Nights $589
Sandman Hotel City Centre — + taxes & fees $313
INCLUDES downtown accom. Departs Jun 23/ggv/wg. ADD Vancouver Lookout admission for $15.

Washington, DC
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star $649
Washington Hilton — + taxes & fees $122
INCLUDES accom in the heart of the city. Departs Jun 12/ggv/dl. ADD taste of DC tour for $40.

Key West Air + 4 Nights + Car $709
DoubleTree Grand Key Resort — + taxes & fees $123
INCLUDES air to Miami, accom in Key West and 4-day car rental with unlimited mileage. Departs Jun 5/ggv/aa.

Family Specials

Niagara Falls
1 Night + Waterpark Pass $59◊
Great Wolf Lodge — taxes and fees included
INCLUDES family suite accom with waterpark pass. Price per person based on a family of 4. Travel May 1 - 30/ggv.

Orlando Air + 7 Nights $209◊
Champions World Resort — + taxes & fees $287
INCLUDES accom near *Walt Disney World* Resort. Departs Jun 12/ggv/wg. Price is per person based on a family of 4. ADD 5-day *Magic Your Way* Base Ticket for $246 adult, $222 child (3-9 years).

New York Harry Potter: The Exhibition
Air + 3 Nights $519◊
Excelsior Hotel — + taxes & fees $117
INCLUDES Manhattan accom during the August long weekend. Visit Harry Potter: The Exhibition in Times Square. Departs Jul 29/ggv/aa.

Honolulu & Maui
Air + 7 Nights $879◊
Castle Kamaole Sands, Ohana Waikiki West — + taxes & fees $137
INCLUDES all air, 4 nights Kihei condo-style accom & 3 nights Waikiki accom with kitchenette. Price per person based on a family of 4. Departs May 5/ggv/dl/ha.

Europe

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Prague Air + 7 Nights 4-Star $1118
Residence Belgicka Prague — + taxes & fees $323
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Dublin & London
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Gresham Hotel, Thistle Kensington Gardens — + taxes & fees $502
INCLUDES all air, 3 nights central Dublin accom on O'Connell Street and 4 nights London accom close to Buckingham Palace. BONUS breakfast daily included. Departs May 9/ggv/ts/bd.

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THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

looking for bargains also should consider package bookings that include flights and hotels, she said.

George Hobica, president of AirfareWatchdog.com, said consumers looking for deals on airfare or package booking should go online twice a day for a month. He said they should not only use sites such as Expedia, Hotwire, and airline alert services, but also scan the online sites of airlines.

Travel agents said flights to Greece are likely to remain more expensive than those to the other three nations. But Greece's airports have reached out to tourists by waiving landing, takeoff and stopover fees, and Parliament recently reduced the value-added tax charged to tourists by hotels to 6.5 per cent from 11 per cent.

ARTURO RODRIGUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The Royal Palace in Madrid, Spain.

Some struggling hotels and bed-and-breakfasts in countries such as Greece and Portugal also are offering bargain rates that can be found online at sites such as EuroCheapo.com.

Dublin is reaching out to tourists by launching a program in June that provides a free round of drinks and a free tour of the city by a local resident. Travellers 66 years or older can get a Golden Trekker Pass: four days of unlimited free train travel on Irish Rail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TITLE HEADER

Some ways to cut down costs

Like North America, Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain have regions that remain prosperous, despite the tough economic times, and ones that are hurting. For that reason, it's important for tourists who can't afford to stay in the well-off areas to visit them on day-trips and to spend the night at nearby hotels with cheaper rates.

For instance, Madrid remains pricey, but tourists can visit top museums such the Prado and Reina Sofia (free the last two hours every day), or Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando (free on Wednesdays), then use good public transportation to get elsewhere for affordable accommodations. All four nations have extensive train, subway and bus services that also allow bargain hunters to avoid renting a car and paying steep fuel prices.

Or tourists might just skip expensive areas such as Madrid and Barcelona and fly on a local budget airline from Madrid to Granada or Costa del Sol, two areas in the south that were harder hit by the crisis and have cheaper hotels and restaurants.

Another option could be to give Spain a pass this year and head instead to neighbouring Portugal, one of the poorest countries in western Europe.

Despite all Portugal's problems, Britain's Prince Charles and Camilla are currently making official visits there, and to Spain and Morocco.

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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

VOLUNTEER OTTAWA

Volunteering to help garden in your community is a great way to get involved

VOLUNTEER CANADA THANKS THE NATION'S DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS—AND PUTS OUT A CALL TO RECRUIT NEW ONES

When Ruth MacKenzie was in elementary school in Toronto during the late 1960s, she remembers taking part in a classroom fundraising event to help end the seal hunt. In her 20s, she would go on to volunteer at the Humane Society, the Elizabeth Fry Society and a kids' help-phone line.

Today MacKenzie is the president and CEO of Ottawa-based Volunteer Canada, the national organization for volunteerism. She believes volunteering is not just something people do but also who they are as compassionate and caring citizens who are driven to devote themselves to meaningful causes in their communities.

MacKenzie is happy to shine the spotlight on the importance of volunteering during the 68th National Volunteer Week taking place from April 10 to 16. This year's theme is "Volunteers: Passion. Action. Impact"—three natural steps in the evolution of the volunteer experience.

"Our main goal during National Volunteer Week is to thank the 12.5 million volunteers in Canada who dedicate their time and energy every year to various causes," says MacKenzie. "Many of these volunteers are retired, and they'll one day be 'retiring' from their volunteer 'careers,' so we'd also like to encourage younger people to start contributing to their communities."

MacKenzie wants to spread the word that everybody can be a volunteer, whether that means canvassing for the Cancer Society, cutting an elderly neighbour's grass or helping organize an event like a music festival or a sports tournament.

National Volunteer Week is the ideal time to recognize our country's volunteers who give more than two billion hours of their time, energy and skills in schools, hospitals, animal shelters, sports teams, disaster relief—the list of recipients who benefit from their services is almost endless.

So why do so many Canadians volunteer? "We're a compassionate nation," says MacKenzie. "Canadians feel they have the right and responsibility to contribute to improving the quality of their communities."

by Jane Doucet

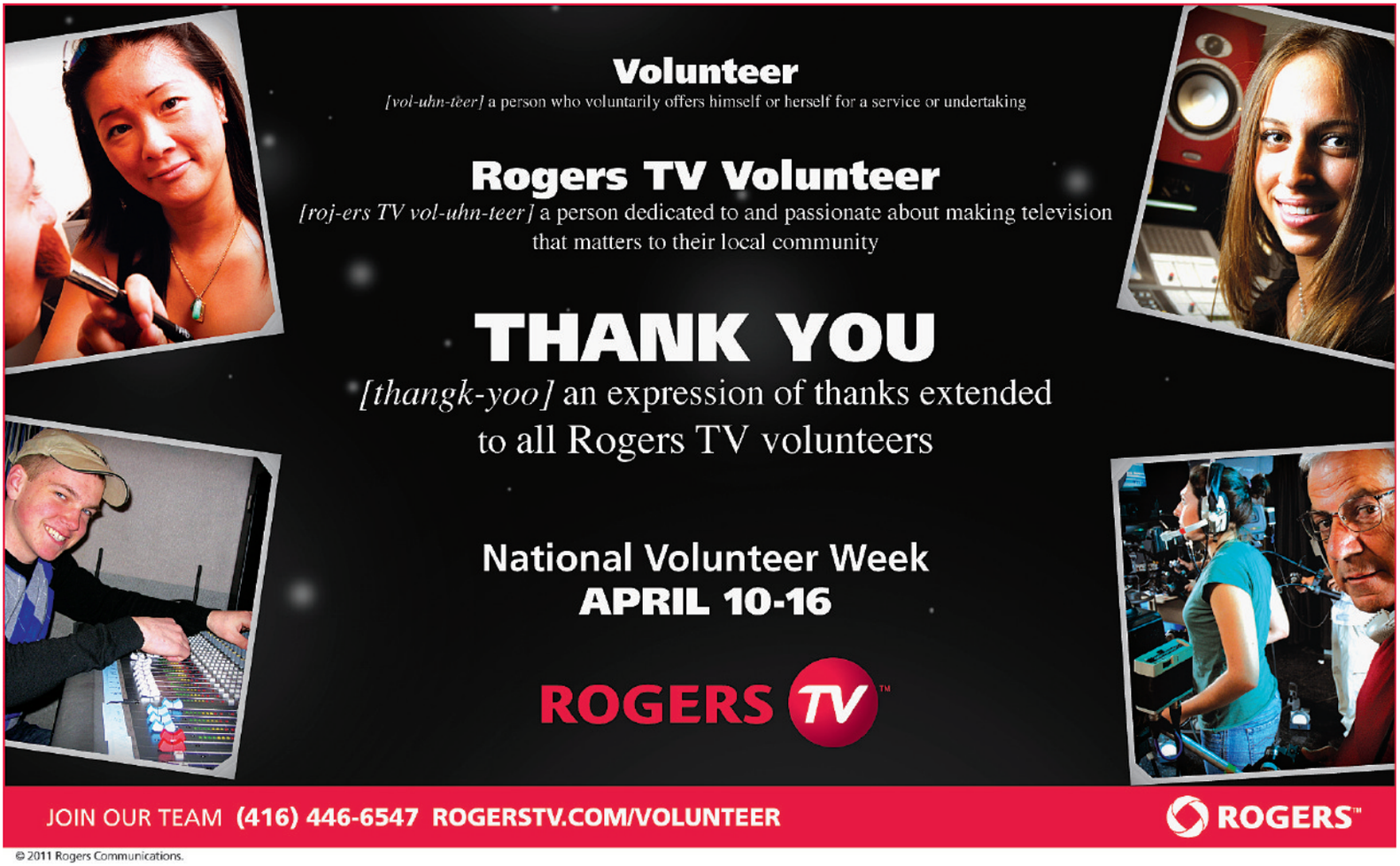
MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEER CANADA

Founded in 1977, Volunteer Canada works in partnership with Volunteer Centres, businesses and non-profit organizations to support volunteerism and Canada's volunteers.

Volunteer Canada inspires and encourages Canadians to become engaged in their communities from coast to coast to coast. The organization also creates and develops programs, research and tools for the non-profit sector.

Volunteer Canada helps recognizes the impact of Canada's volunteers through a variety of national campaigns. It works with its Corporate Council on Volunteering to foster conversations about corporate community involvement.

For more information, visit www.volunteer.ca or call 1-800-670-0401.



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A fresh treat for kids? Yes, it's possible

After months of holiday-related treats, these lemon squares are refreshing Kids can help make to them

MAYA VISNYEI

This recipe makes 16 lemon squares.

Sometimes, it feels like health-conscious parents can't catch a break.

Just when you've managed to get past all of those Halloween treats (and the accompanying sugar highs), Christmas candy canes show up.

And when you're done with those, Valentine's chocolates start appearing.

Then they make way for eggs, chocolate bunnies and cream-filled chicks.

I'm really looking forward to a few months without a treat-oriented holiday in sight.

Meanwhile, I'm selling my kids on the idea of spring-themed treats as a replacement for excess chocolate eggs.

These lemon squares might just help me to convince them.

If you can find Meyer lemons, they really are worth the extra expense.

Not as sour as regular citrus, they're vibrant tasting and very easy to juice and zest. But any lemon will do.

The addition of the wheatgerm to the crust gives it a nutty flavour, which is a nice foil for the lemony-ness of the squares.

This is a recipe with lots of opportunities for kids to get involved.

They can help with pressing the crust into the pan, cracking eggs, grating the frozen butter.

And, of course, they can do what they do best: Scarf back the resulting delicious treats.

Preparation:

1. In a bowl, combine the flour, wheat germ, icing sugar and salt. Grate the sticks of frozen butter with a cheese grater into the flour mixture. Toss the frozen butter curls into the flour mixture until you have a mealy texture. Press the loose dough into 13 x 9 inch (3 L) baking dish and use your hands to flatten it. Refrigerate for the dought for about 15 minutes.

2. Bake the rust in a 350 F (180 C) oven for about 15 to 18 minutes or until it's just beginning to turn golden.

3. **Filling**: In a bowl, whisk together the sugar, flour, salt, lemon rind and juice, eggs and egg yolk. Whisk until ingredients are well blended. Gently pour the filling mixture onto the hot crust. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until the filling has just set.

4. Allow to cool completely before slicing into squares. Dip your knife in warm water before each cut to ensure clean cuts.

SWEET POTATO CHRONICLES (SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM)

Ingredients:

- 2 cups (500 mL) all purpose flour
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) wheat germ
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) icing sugar
- 3/4 tsp (4 mL) salt
- 2 sticks frozen butter

Filling:

- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) all purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) grated lemon rind
- 3/4 cup (175 mL) lemon juice (about 4 Meyer lemons)
- 3 eggs
- 1 egg yolk
- Icing Sugar

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Students everywhere are going for the green

Young people applying for enviro-programs in droves as jobs increase

Canadian students are flocking to environment-related programs as experts predict a boost in green sector jobs.

The latest figures show enrolment in university programs, such as land-use planning and conservation biology, have risen dramatically in recent years.

Environment-related college programs have also seen a slight increase in enrolment.

Meanwhile, experts say the country's burgeoning green economy holds many opportunities for graduates willing to step off the beaten path.

While it still represents fewer jobs overall than other fields, the green sector "is an emerging part of the economy that's growing at a faster rate than the traditional pieces," said job expert Alan Kearns, founder of CareerJoy.

Graduates who can market themselves in that economy are likely to be in demand, whether they end up working in a green start-up or co-ordinating a more traditional company's sustainability efforts, he said.

Alexandra Birtwistle, 23, decided to specialize in green architecture after hearing her teachers talk about the opportunities it offered.

"It seemed interesting, an up-and-coming thing," and a chance to make a lasting impact on the world, she said.

Now on the verge of graduating from Ottawa's Algonquin College, Birtwistle said she's hoping those opportunities pan out.

"I'm trying to focus on sustainable architecture firms," she said. Plus, "a lot of big firms are thinking more about sustainability, so I hope to get a junior position somewhere."

Students are showing a "huge interest" in green jobs, said Laurie Simmonds, president of Green Living, the marketing firm behind the Green Living Show in Toronto.

That's why this year's show will include a green jobs forum on April 16, to help job seekers connect with green sector employers, she said.

Roughly two thirds of green companies expect to hire full-time employees in the next five years, according to a survey performed by ECO Canada last year.

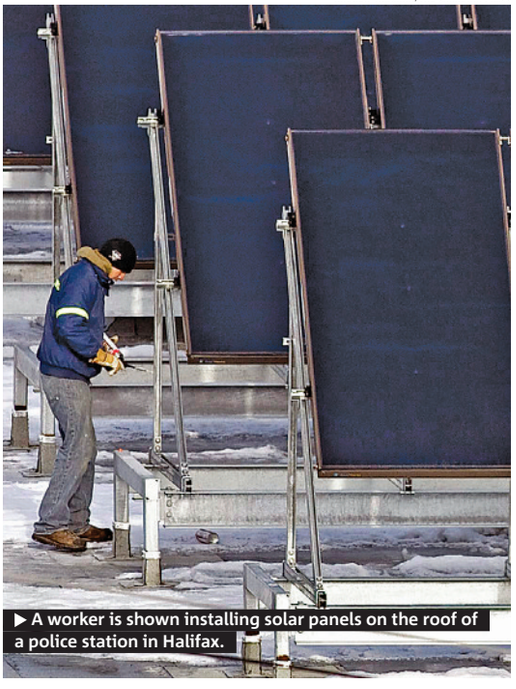
Tom Rand, a clean technology expert who will headline the green jobs forum, said most opportunities available right now involve installing green technologies such as solar panels rather than developing new ones.

At the same time, there's always room for innovation and entrepreneurship, said Andrew Heintzman, chairman of Ontario's climate change advisory panel.

"It's never too early to start thinking about good ideas," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ A worker is shown installing solar panels on the roof of a police station in Halifax.

By the numbers

According to a report released by ECO Canada, a non-profit organization focused on the environment industry:

- The number of students enrolled in environment-related university programs went up roughly 40 per cent between 2000 and 2007.
- Enrolment in similar college programs rose less than one per cent between 2000 and 2005, the report reads.
- In Ontario, however, there's been a boom in green-economy college programs, with 35 new diploma or certificate programs introduced in the past three years, including 14 last fall alone.

BEWARE THE ONLINE BUY

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN

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DAN@TORONTO-EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN

People often get exactly what they pay for. This is as true in law as it is in life. Here is one story that should give people pause when they are offered legal services over the Internet.

Recently, a couple came to me seeking a second opinion following a dispute with a temporary contractor they hired, or so they thought. They had found a lawyer online, selling precedent "contracts" at a discount. Since this couple was new to their business, they were unfortunately drawn to this lawyer's website, believing they would get a solid product without spending money on a lawyer's time

The couple explained that they had sought to hire an individual contractor to complete a few tasks. After that, they would not need him anymore. They swiftly purchased one of this lawyer's "contracts" online and gave it to the individual to sign, not realizing that what they had purchased was much different from what they actually needed the contractor to sign.

After he had completed his tasks within the first six months, the contractor's job was done. No problem there. However, the contract they had signed guaranteed him one year's worth of work. Even though the individual was no longer needed, when the couple attempted to end his employment early, he demanded pay for the remaining six months, arguing that his contract was for a defined term.

The problem is that the contract they bought online did not allow them to end the job early without paying for the remaining time on the contract (something that most employment lawyers should spot as a matter of course) and, worse yet, the lawyer who sold it to them had not bothered to discuss that with them, since they never even met! As this couple now owed the contractor twice the fee they initially expected to pay him, the "contract" they bought online ultimately cost them much more than they paid for it.

What should the public do? Avoid purchasing legal products over the Internet. There are few rules that limit lawyers without much experience in employment law from professing that they practise it on their websites and in the media – and unfortunately they do, often to the public's detriment.

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A little pre-test stressed?

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In the coming months, anxiety rates on college campuses will surely be on the rise as students prepare for final exams.

Dr. Blythe Grossberg, author of Test Success: Test-Taking and Study Strategies for All Students, has been a learning specialist for more than a decade. We asked her for some advice.

Is anxiety and fear ever good when it comes to final exams? Yes. There's been a lot of research in this area. Stress is somewhat of a bell curve — a little bit of it can make you motivated and function better. We all respond to motivation.

But there's a point where you become overwhelmed, and that's where you're on the downward side of the bell curve, and you'll find it more difficult to concentrate.

What are the most common mistakes in preparing for finals? Students often use passive study strategies. They're doing things like reading the textbook or just reading over their notes. They're not actively approaching the information. You need to ask, "What are the major themes that tie this information together? What are the five major lessons my professor has been trying to drive home?"

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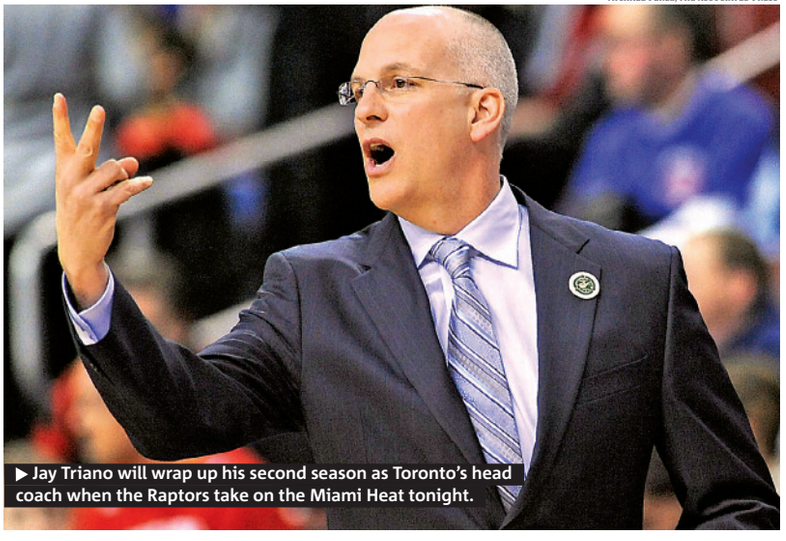
4 sports

Triano living in the now

Raptors coach focusing on task at hand rather than murky future

MICHAEL PEREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Jay Triano will wrap up his second season as Toronto's head coach when the Raptors take on the Miami Heat tonight.

Amid the mounting losses and uncertainty about a future that is frustratingly unclear, Jay Triano has summoned strength from his past.

The Toronto Raptors have just one game left in a season to forget before an off-season full of question marks.

Neither Triano's job as head coach, Bryan Colangelo's position as president and GM, nor the immediate continuance of the league itself is a given right now.

But as the late Canadian coaching legend Jack Donohue used to tell Triano, the only thing within his control is today.

"Jack used to tell us, 'Yesterday is a cancelled cheque, and tomorrow is a promisory note, and today is cash in hand,'" Triano said. "The only one that has any immediate value is the cash in hand.

"So live each day and do the best that you can every single day. That's the way we've approached this, and I think it's a great way to approach life: Live every day and plan for the future, and dream for it, but you've got a chance to make a mark today, so do it today."

Triano will wrap up his ninth season in Toronto and second as head coach, when the Raptors (22-59) host the Miami Heat (57-24) tonight (Sportsnet One, 8 p.m. ET).

The Raptors have an option for another year on Triano's contract that has to be picked up by June. The contracts of his assistants, except P.J. Carlesimo, are expiring as well.

Triano and his staff have spoken briefly about what lies ahead, but tried not to dwell on their murky futures.

"The conversation usually goes: 'Guys, there's nothing we can do about this but our jobs, and let's go out there and be very prepared and let's not stop working,'" Triano said. "It's a trait we want to extend through the players as well.

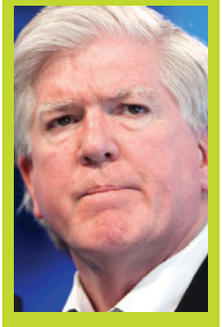
"Sometimes we forget that they're 21, 22 years old. We want to set a good example by always being prepared, and never giving up. Then at the end of the day, nobody will have a problem looking in the mirror and saying, 'I did the best I could.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Impending doom?

- Looming large this off-season is the threat of a lockout. The collective bargaining agreement between the union and league is set to expire June 30.

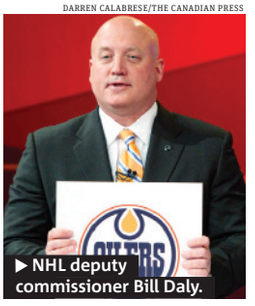
Quoted



"I do think we're close with a few additions ... Whether we can get access to those players or are able to get them remains to be seen."

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS GM BRIAN BURKE DURING A NEWS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY. BURKE AGREED WITH COACH RON WILSON'S ASSERTION THAT THE LEAFS ARE "TWO OR THREE PIECES" AWAY FROM BEING A STANLEY CUP CONTENDER.

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly.

Oilers land No. 1 pick

The Edmonton Oilers will pick first overall in the NHL draft for a second straight year.

New Jersey won the draft lottery last night but teams aren't allowed to move up more than four spots, leaving Edmonton with the first overall pick.

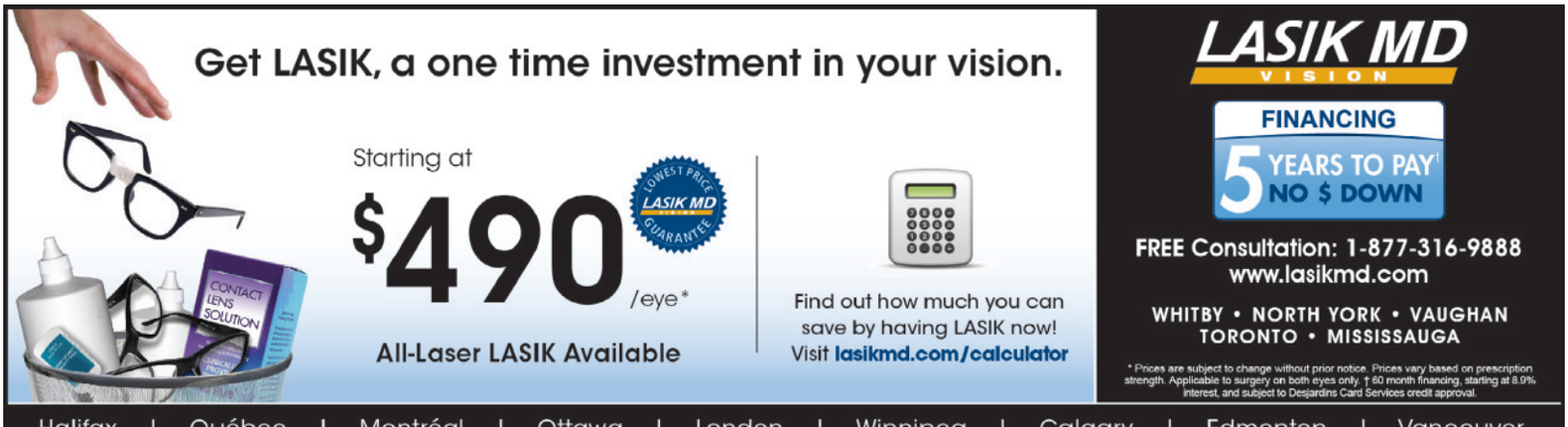
The Devils will pick fourth, the New York Islanders fifth and the Ottawa Senators were bumped down to the sixth spot, with Colorado and Florida falling in order at second and third, respectively.

After finishing its season in 30th place, Edmonton held the highest odds of getting the No. 1 pick at 48.2 per cent.

"Winning this first overall pick is an important moment for the organization and it's an integral part of the process moving forward," said Oilers GM Steve Tambellini.

"This is a very exciting time for our organization and our fans as this just adds to the already bright future of our team."

The NHL draft is scheduled for June 24-25 in St. Paul, Minn., where Ryan Nugent-Hopkins of the WHL's Red Deer Rebels is expected to be taken No. 1 overall. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Eastern Conference

- **Capitals (1) vs. Rangers (8)** The Capitals goal this season was getting ready for the playoffs and improving defensively. Henrik Lundqvist led the league with 11 shutouts and offers New York a chance to upset. **The Rangers went 3-1-0 in the season series.**
- **Flyers (2) vs. Sabres (7)** Sergei Bobrovsky will start the series as Philly's No. 1 goalie but could be replaced if he stumbles. Buffalo has been scorching hot since the all-star break. Ryan Miller is back after an upper-body injury. **The Flyers went 2-1-1 in the season series.**
- **Bruins (3) vs. Canadiens (6)** Boston's Tim Thomas is the favourite for the Vezina after setting an NHL record with a .938 save percentage. Montreal's Carey Price tied for the league lead with 38 wins. The Habs are hoping for a huge playoff from him. **Montreal went 4-2-0 in the season series.**
- **Penguins (4) vs. Lightning (5)** The Penguins managed to hang tough without Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin for almost half a season. Tampa returns to the post-season after three years and should have the edge offensively with Pittsburgh missing its two stars. **Season series was a 2-2-0 tie.**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Price takes centre stage

Canadiens goalie will try to make Habs fans forget about Halak
Heads into Game 1 facing Vezina Trophy favourite Tim Thomas

Much has changed for Carey Price since he was forced to watch from the bench last spring as unheralded goalie Jaroslav Halak led the Montreal Canadiens to the Eastern Conference final.

Halak was traded not long after that despite becoming the darling of the Bell Centre crowd.

But then Price asserted his billing as a goaltending prodigy with a breakthrough 2010-11 season, appearing in a career-high 72 games and finishing tied for the league lead with 38 victories.

Now it's playoff time, and it will be up to Price to hold the fort as he tries to make people forget about Halak's feat with his own string of upsets.

It starts in Boston, where the slick-skating Canadiens begin what should be a tight first-round series against the Bruins tomorrow night (CBC, 7 p.m. ET).

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Carey Price will have his chance to shine, or stumble, this spring.

"I'll just keep on doing what I've been doing all season," Price said yesterday.

The playoffs have not been kind to Price in recent years, but that was a younger, less disciplined version of the goaltender.

After he came out of junior hockey and led the Hamilton Bulldogs to an AHL championship in 2007, the 2005 fifth overall draft pick won the starting job in Montreal. He posted two shutouts in a first-round victory over the Bruins in the 2008 post-season.

Price hasn't won in the playoffs since.

He takes an eight-game playoff winless run into the Boston series.

"Every year's a new year so you never know what's going to happen," he said.

It may be a rough series for Price. The Bruins like to crowd the net and have the big men to do it, starting with rugged winger Milan Lucic, who had nine points in six games against Montreal this season.

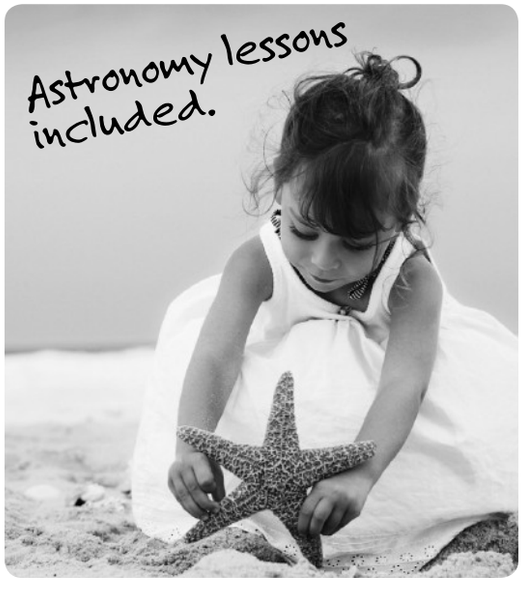
Mostly, Price wants his chance to revel in the excitement of a playoff run.

"Playing at this time of the year in this city is special. Now everyone's got their flags out, Ste. Catherine Street is going to be pretty wild. Everyone's all wrapped up, but the guys in this locker-room have to stay calm and keep on doing what's made us successful. Not tighten up or get nervous." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Western Conference

- **Canucks (1) vs. Hawks (8)** Nothing short of a Stanley Cup will do for the Canucks, who had the NHL's best record. Chicago beat Vancouver in last two playoffs the last two years, but are an underdog this time around. **The Canucks went 2-1-1 in the season series.**
- **Sharks (2) vs. Kings (7)** Goalie Antti Niemi will be looking to win the Stanley Cup for the second time in as many years. Los Angeles enters the series without leading scorer Anze Kopitar, but is hoping to get Justin Williams back from a dislocated shoulder. **The Sharks went 3-1-2 in the season series.**
- **Red Wings (3) vs. Coyotes (6)** Detroit stumbled down the stretch and Henrik Zetterberg will be out of the lineup for at least the start of the series. The Coyotes put together another solid year despite only having one player (Shane Doan) reach 20 goals.**The Coyotes went 2-0-2 in the season series.**
- **Ducks (4) vs. Predators (5)** Anaheim roared into the playoffs largely due to Corey Perry, who scored 19 goals in the final 16 games. Nashville is hoping to advance past the first round for the first time. Goalie Pekka Rinne has a .930 save percentage and 2.12 goals-against. **The Predators went 3-1-0 in the season series.**

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE QUARTER-FINALS

(Best-of-7 series)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Washington (1) vs. N.Y. Rangers (8)
Tonight's game
N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Friday's game
N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 23
x-N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 3 p.m.
Monday, April 25
x-Washington at N.Y. Rangers, TBA
Wednesday, April 27
x-N.Y. Rangers at Washington, TBA
Philadelphia (2) vs. Buffalo (7)
Tomorrow's game
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's game
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Monday, April 18
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 22
x-Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 24
x-Philadelphia at Buffalo, 3 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26
x-Buffalo at Philadelphia, TBA
Boston (3) vs. Montreal (6)
Tomorrow's game
Montreal at Boston, 7 p.m.
Saturday's game
Montreal at Boston, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 18
Boston at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 21
Boston at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 23
x-Montreal at Boston, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26
x-Boston at Montreal, TBA
Wednesday, April 27
x-Montreal at Boston, TBA
Pittsburgh (4) vs. Tampa Bay (5)
Tonight's game
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Friday's game
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 18
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 23
x-Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, TBA
Monday, April 25
x-Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, TBA
Wednesday, April 27
x-Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, TBA

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Vancouver (1) vs. Chicago (8)
Tonight's game
Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Friday's game
Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Sunday's game
Vancouver at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 19
Vancouver at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Thursday, April 21
x-Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Sunday, April 24
x-Vancouver at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26
x-Chicago at Vancouver, TBA
San Jose (2) vs. Los Angeles (7)
Tomorrow's game
Los Angeles at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Saturday's game
Los Angeles at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Tuesday, April 19
San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 21
San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 23
x-Los Angeles at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Monday, April 25
x-San Jose at Los Angeles, TBA
Wednesday, April 27
x-Los Angeles at San Jose, TBA
Detroit (3) vs. Phoenix (6)
Tonight's game
Phoenix at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Saturday's game
Phoenix at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Monday, April 18
Detroit at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20
Detroit at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.
Friday, April 22
x-Phoenix at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 24
x-Detroit at Phoenix, TBA
Wednesday, April 27
x-Phoenix at Detroit, TBA
Anaheim (4) vs. Nashville (5)
Tonight's game
Nashville at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's game
Nashville at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Anaheim at Nashville, TBA
Wednesday, April 20
Anaheim at Nashville, TBA
Friday, April 22
x-Nashville at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Sunday, April 24
x-Anaheim at Nashville, TBA
Tuesday, April 26
x-Nashville at Anaheim, TBA
x — played only if necessary.

FINAL REGULAR SEASON SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
D.Sedin, Vcr	41	63	104
St. Louis, TB	31	68	99
Perry, Ana	50	48	98
H.Sedin, Vcr	19	75	94
Stamkos, TB	45	46	91
Iginla, Cal	43	43	86
Ovechkin, Wash	32	53	85
Selanne, Ana	31	49	80
Zetterberg, Det	24	56	80
B.Richards, Dal	28	49	77
E.Staal, Car	33	43	76
Toews, Chi	32	44	76
C.Giroux, Pha	25	51	76
Getzlaf, Ana	19	57	76
Kesler, Vcr	41	32	73
Marleau, SJ	37	36	73
Vanek, Buf	32	41	73
Eriksson, Dal	27	46	73
P.Kane, Chi	27	46	73
Kopitar, LA	25	48	73
Ryan, Ana	34	37	71
Sharp, Chi	34	37	71
Ribeiro, Dal	19	52	71
J.Thornton, SJ	21	49	70
Tanguay, Cal	22	47	69
Briere, Pha	34	34	68
Visnovsky, Ana	18	50	68
Tavares, NYI	29	38	67
Duchene, Col	27	40	67
J.Carter, Pha	36	30	66
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
Nash, Clb	32	34	66
M.Richards, Pha	23	43	66
Pavelski, SJ	20	46	66
Backstrom, Wash	18	47	65
Kessel, Tor	32	32	64
Heatley, SJ	26	38	64
Skinner, Car	31	32	63
Backes, StL	31	31	62
Lucic, Bos	30	32	62
Clowe, SJ	24	38	62
Havlat, Minn	22	40	62
Elias, NJ	21	41	62
MacArthur, Tor	21	41	62
M.Koivu, Minn	17	45	62
Lidstrom, Det	16	46	62
Krecji, Bos	13	49	62

MLB

MONDAY

MARINERS 8, BLUE JAYS 7

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Y.Escobar ss	3	0	1	1	1	1	.458
C.Patterson cf	5	1	2	2	0	0	.400
Bautista rf	3	1	2	0	2	1	.400
Lind 1b	5	0	0	0	0	3	.273
A.Hill 2b	5	1	1	1	0	1	.186
Arencibia c	5	0	2	0	0	1	.375
Snider lf	4	1	0	1	1	2	.147
Encarnacion dh	4	1	3	0	0	0	.235
J.Nix 3b	4	2	3	1	0	0	.333
Totals	**38**	**7**	**14**	**6**	**4**	**9**	
Seattle	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**BB**	**SO**	**Avg.**
I.Suzuki rf	4	2	2	0	2	0	.275
Figgins 3b	1	0	1	0	1	0	.158
L.Rodriguez 3b	3	1	1	3	1	1	.167
Bradley lf	4	2	2	2	1	1	.278
Cust dh	3	0	0	1	2	1	.171
1-Langerhans pr-dh	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Smoak 1b	3	0	2	2	2	1	.265
Olivo c	5	0	0	0	0	2	.207
M.Saunders cf	4	2	2	0	1	0	.263
Ryan ss	3	1	1	0	1	1	.167
J.Wilson 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.273
a-A.Kennedy ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.294
Totals	**35**	**8**	**11**	**8**	**11**	**7**	

Toronto	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	**7**	**141**
Seattle	0	0	0	1	5	2	0	**8**	**111**

Two outs when winning run scored.
a-grounded out for J.Wilson in the 9th.
1-ran for Cust in the 8th.
E—Arencibia (1), Smoak (1). LOB—Toronto 9, Seattle 13. 2B—A.Hill (2), Encarnacion (2), J.Nix (1), Smoak (5), M.Saunders (1). HR—C.Patterson (1), off F.Hernandez; Bradley (1), off Villanueva. RBIs—Y.Escobar (5), C.Patterson 2 (2), A.Hill (7), Snider (8), J.Nix (4), L.Rodriguez 3 (3), Bradley 2 (3), Cust (4), Smoak 2 (4). SB—Bautista (1), I.Suzuki (4), M.Saunders (1), Ryan (1). CS—Snider (1). S—Ryan. SF—Y.Escobar.
Runners left in scoring position—Toronto 5 (A.Hill, C.Patterson, Lind 3); Seattle 8 (Olivo 6, L.Rodriguez, I.Suzuki).
Runners moved up—J.Wilson. GIDP—Lind, Olivo. DP—Toronto 1 (J.Nix, A.Hill, Lind); Seattle 1 (J.Wilson, Ryan, Smoak).

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Litsch	5	5	0	0	4	4	111	2.38
Frasor	1	0	0	0	1	1	20	3.38
Villanueva	1	1	1	1	1	2	23	1.35
Purcey	⅓	2	3	3	1	0	16	11.57
Dotel	0	0	2	2	2	0	12	9.00
Rzepczynski	0	1	0	0	1	0	10	0.00
Camp L, 0-1	BS, 1-1	⅓	2	2	2	1	0	22 2.57

Seattle	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
F.Hernandez	6	12	7	7	2	6	111	4.50
Laffey	1	1	0	0	0	1	13	0.00
Wilhelmsen	1	1	0	0	2	1	21	9.82
Lueke W, 1-0	1	0	0	0	0	1	12	9.82

Dotel pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.
Rzepczynski pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.
Inherited runners-scored—Dotel 3-2, Rzepczynski 3-3, Camp 2-0. IBB—off Camp (I.Suzuki). WP—F.Hernandez 2.
Umpires—Home, Scott Barry; First, John Hirschbeck; Second, Wally Bell; Third, Laz Diaz.
T—3:46. A—13,056 (47,878).

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	6	3	.667	—
New York	5	4	.556	1
Toronto	5	5	.500	1½
Tampa Bay	3	8	.273	4
Boston	2	9	.182	5

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	8	2	.800	—
Kansas City	6	3	.667	1½
Chicago	6	4	.600	2
Detroit	4	7	.364	4½
Minnesota	3	6	.333	4½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	9	2	.818	—
Los Angeles	5	5	.500	3½
Oakland	5	5	.500	3½
Seattle	3	7	.300	5½

Yesterday's results
Tampa Bay 3 Boston 2
Detroit 5 Texas 4
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, ppd., rain
Kansas City at Minnesota
Oakland at Chicago White Sox
Cleveland at L.A. Angels
Toronto at Seattle
Monday's results
Seattle 8 Toronto 7
Tampa Bay 16 Boston 5
Texas 2 Detroit 0
Oakland 2 Chicago White Sox 1, 10 innings
Cleveland 4 L.A. Angels 0
Today's games
All times Eastern
Texas (Bush 0-0) at Detroit (Scherzer 2-0), 1:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Davies 0-1) at Minnesota (Liriano 0-2), 1:10 p.m.
Oakland (Anderson 0-1) at Chicago White Sox (Danks 0-1), 2:10 p.m.
Toronto (Drabek 1-0) at Seattle (Vargas 0-1), 3:40 p.m.
Baltimore (Bergesen 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees (P.Hughes 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (C.Carrasco 1-1) at L.A. Angels (E.Santana 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Shields 0-1) at Boston (Lackey 1-1), 7:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	7	3	.700	—
Florida	5	5	.500	2
Washington	5	5	.500	2
Atlanta	5	6	.455	2½
New York	4	6	.400	3

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	7	3	.700	—
Chicago	5	5	.500	2
Milwaukee	5	5	.500	2
Pittsburgh	5	5	.500	2
St. Louis	4	6	.400	3
Houston	2	8	.200	5

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	7	2	.778	—
Los Angeles	6	4	.600	1½
Arizona	4	5	.444	3
San Diego	4	5	.444	3
San Francisco	4	6	.400	3½

Yesterday's results
Atlanta 5 Florida 0
Washington 7 Philadelphia 4
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, ppd., rain
Colorado at N.Y. Mets, ppd., rain
Chicago Cubs at Houston
St. Louis at Arizona
Cincinnati at San Diego
L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco
Monday's results
Colorado 7 N.Y. Mets 6
St. Louis 8 Arizona 2
Cincinnati 3 San Diego 2
Chicago Cubs 5 Houston 4
L.A. Dodgers 6 San Francisco 1
Today's games
All times Eastern
Cincinnati (T.Wood 1-1) at San Diego (Stauffer 0-1), 6:35 p.m.
Milwaukee (Marcum 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Correia 2-0), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Halladay 1-0) at Washington (Lannan 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Colorado (De La Rosa 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Dickey 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
Florida (Jo.Johnson 1-0) at Atlanta (T.Hudson 2-0), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 1-0) at Houston (W.Rodriguez 0-1), 8:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Westbrook 0-1) at Arizona (I.Kennedy 1-0), 9:40 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Lilly 0-1) at San Francisco (J.Sanchez 0-1), 10:15 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP MONTE CARLO MASTERS

At Monte Carlo, Monaco
Singles — First Round
Gilles Simon (16), France, def. Thomaz Bellucci, Brazil, 6-3, 6-2.
Feliciano Lopez, Spain, def. Janko Tipsarevic, Serbia, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4).
Maximo Gonzalez, Argentina, def. Victor Hanescu, Romania, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.
Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Kevin Anderson, South Africa, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, def. Vincent Millot, France, 6-2, 6-4.
Singles — Second Round
Milos Raonic, Thornhill, Ont., def. Ernests Gulbis, Latvia, 6-4, 7-5.
Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, 6-2, 6-1.
Tomas Berdych (5), Czech Republic, def. Olivier Rochus, Belgium, 6-2, 6-3.
Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, def. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (12), France, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

(Home teams listed first)
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP
Barnsley 0 Queens Park Rangers 1
Derby 2 Leeds 1
Doncaster 1 Preston 1
Ipswich 3 Middlesbrough 3
Leicester 1 Crystal Palace 1
Millwall 0 Bristol City 0
Nott'm Forest 2 Burnley 0
Portsmouth 0 Coventry 3
Scunthorpe 0 Reading 2
Sheff Utd 0 Cardiff 2
Swansea 1 Hull 1
Watford 2 Norwich 2

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Chicago	60	20	.750	—
y-Miami	57	24	.704	3½
y-Boston	55	26	.679	5½
x-Orlando	51	30	.630	9½
x-Atlanta	44	37	.543	16½
x-New York	42	38	.525	18
x-Philadelphia	41	40	.506	19½
x-Indiana	37	44	.457	23½
Milwaukee	34	47	.420	26½
Charlotte	33	48	.407	27½
Detroit	29	52	.358	31½
New Jersey	24	57	.296	36½
Washington	23	58	.284	37½
Toronto	22	59	.272	38½
Cleveland	18	63	.222	42½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-San Antonio	61	19	.763	—
x-Dallas	56	25	.691	5½
y-L.A. Lakers	55	25	.688	6
y-Oklahoma City	55	26	.679	6½
x-Denver	50	31	.617	11½
x-Portland	47	33	.588	14
x-Memphis	46	34	.575	15
x-New Orleans	46	35	.568	15½
Houston	42	39	.519	19½
Phoenix	39	42	.481	22½
Utah	38	43	.469	23½
Golden State	35	46	.432	26½
L.A. Clippers	31	50	.383	30½
Sacramento	24	57	.296	37½
Minnesota	17	64	.210	44½

x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division; z-clinched conference
Last night's results
Chicago at New York
Memphis at Portland
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Monday's results
Miami 98 Atlanta 90
Charlotte 105 New Jersey 103
Orlando 95 Philadelphia 85
Washington 95, Boston 94, OT
Cleveland 110 Detroit 101
Milwaukee 93 Toronto 86
Utah 90 New Orleans 78
Dallas 98 Houston 91, OT
Denver 134 Golden State 111
Phoenix 135 Minnesota 127, OT
Oklahoma City 120 Sacramento 112
Today's games
All times Eastern
Denver at Utah, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Chicago, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Houston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
New York at Boston, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Washington at Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Miami at Toronto, 8 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.
END OF REGULAR SEASON

SOCCER

SCOTLAND

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Engine

Returning for 2011 is the base 173-horsepower 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine, although its redesigned engine mounts are claimed to lessen the amount of noise and vibration that made life unpleasant for many Sebring owners who selected this engine.

Newly optional is a 283-horsepower 3.6-litre V6 that replaces the previous six-cylinder offerings.

Facelift

Physically, the 200 still resembles the Sebring of old, but with cleaned-up front-end styling, including a new hood, fenders, grille and projector-style headlights that give the car a classier appearance.

The 200 now closely connects with the full-size Chrysler 300 that has undergone a similar facelift. At the opposite end, a new trunk lid, fenders, bumper and tail lamps also play a part in the Sebring-to-200 transformation.

Interior

Even more radical surgery has been performed on the car's interior. The overtly plastic instrument panel has been restyled and covered in richer-looking soft-touch material and the seats and seat coverings have been upgraded for much-needed comfort and eye appeal.

Topping it off is a new steering wheel with integrated controls for the audio and communications systems.

▶ The nose of the 200 falls in line with the remade Chrysler 300. A better suspension and heavily upgraded interior, along with a new V6 engine, highlight the major improvements.

More than just a name change

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

Chrysler's wave of new and updated models has been nothing short of spectacular.

And among the cars requiring urgent attention was the automaker's Sebring sedan and convertible, now referred to as the 200 series.

In the mid-size class, the Sebring was the wallflower of the group.

Not especially popular — and outclassed by its peers — the car had become all but shunned by the vast majority of buyers who preferred to dance with the Toyota Camry, Honda Accord, Ford Fusion and Chevrolet Malibu, to name just a few of the alternatives.

Chrysler's new Fiat-controlled management group will replace the 200 with an entirely new car in a few years, but for now a new name, fresh sheetmetal and a major engine upgrade will have to suffice.

Are the changes enough to erase any negative thoughts about the previous Sebring? Probably not entirely, but considering the short lead time to develop a stop-gap solution, Chrysler's design and engineering teams have managed to perform a minor miracle.

Viewed in its entirety, the 200 series represents a valiant attempt by Chrysler to get back in the mid-size game and be taken seriously as a category contender.

▶ A look at the 200 convertible.

▶ The new interior is far ahead of old car in terms of comfort and a general feeling of quality. Since this can make or break a sale, Chrysler was wise to invest here.

Chrysler 200

What you should know about the 2011 Chrysler 200:

- **Types:** Four-door mid-size sedan, two-door convertible.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.4-litre DOHC I4 (173); 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (283).
- **Transmission:** Five-speed manual, six-speed automated manual (opt.).
- **Points:** Restyle plays it safe, but improves on previous Sebring; Interior changes add much-needed touch of class.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/highway) 9.9/6.7(2.4).

5 drive

By comparison

Toyota Camry
Base price: $26,800
Mid-size sedan sales king offers plenty of choice, including a hybrid option.

Honda Accord
Base price: $26,350
Roomy, high-quality I4, V6 sedan and coupe are genuine driver's cars.

Chevrolet Malibu
Base price: $25,450
Nicely styled mid-sizer is comfortable and delivers excellent fuel economy.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

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DON'T PAINT IT, WRAP IT

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@ METRONEWS.CA

Vinyl siding for a house is probably a good product, just not too mind-bending. Vinyl for vehicles is a whole other story. The possibilities are positively mind-blowing, if you're ready to cover parts, or your entire car, with a vinyl wrap.

Vinyl wraps started showing up about 15 years ago, mostly as a cheaper and more graphic alternative to painting, to deck out vehicles for promotional and marketing purposes.

Eventually they made their way to personal cars, particularly luxury car and sports car owners looking for that "gangster" look — no chrome, all black matte "stealth bomber."

Brian Spiteri's firm, Big Picture Imaging of Campbellville, Ont., (bigpictureimaging.ca) has done its share of these full-matte, full-wrap projects, including a recent one that was so wondrous that even the R8 owner's teenage son had to concede that his father "may have crossed the line over to cool."

Spiteri's latest project was on his own hobby car — a 1981 Porsche Targa SC. One of the major vinyl wrap suppliers, Germany's Oracal, recently came out with products particularly suited as a "paint replacement." Spiteri was ready to change the colour of his car, but was leery about covering up the Porsche's original paint — a much-coveted aspect of a collector car and one that can considerably juice up its future value. This new wrap sounded like the perfect solution.

"Wraps actually protect original paint from oxidation and fading," says Spiteri. "But wraps also give you the opportunity to have some fun, by letting your personality shine. And, as you know, our personalities change from day to day, month to month, year to year. Today I might want Ferrari red. Tomorrow I might want to be army green. Wraps give you a tons of flexibility."

In the end he opted for Metallic Azure Blue with a high gloss finish. A few years from now, when he's not feeling quite so blue, he'll just peel off the wrap (carefully), and presto! — back to original paint, or on to Ferrari Red.

Applying vinyl wrap isn't quite as easy putting up wallpaper. Spiteri says it's a job best left to the professionals. You think?

Contemplating a home project soon has me picturing myself on the garage floor, crazily wrapped in vinyl, trying to wiggle, armlessly, over to the phone, to peck out 911 — with my nose. Spiteri says his team of experienced installers "have become one with the vinyl."

A full wrap, executed by the pros at Big Picture Imaging, would start around $3,000. Full wraps aren't cheap, concedes Lione Ole, a well-known photographer, specializing in newborns (amazingnewborns.com). When he relocated from Montreal to the GTA area last year, one of the first things he did was buy a black VW GT1 and send it over to Spiteri's shop for a wild wrap.

He considers the outlay to be a worthwhile investment in marketing. Anyone who has seen the finished product would have to agree. Because a huge picture of a screaming baby on a hood of a car, is just something that seems to stick.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Applying vinyl wrap is a job best left to the professionals.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ How's this for a marketing idea?

Top Gear

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WHEELBASE MEDIA

1 Door dings are part of life, no matter how careful you are to avoid them. Although it can't really help you outdoors, Carshield, which hangs from the ceiling in your shop, garage or indoor parkade with a simple eye hook, is 24/7 door-ding protection for your vehicle. Basically, Carshield is a length of high-density foam with a tough nylon exterior wrapped around it that hangs between your vehicle and the neighbouring vehicle. carshieldusa.com.

2 We all like to blame our cars for lousy fuel economy, but the way the vehicle is driven is just as important if not more important. The next time you top up, take along the Lemur EconoDriver. It consists of a sensor that plugs into the On Board Diagnostics port (usually located under the dash). Out of site, it relays data from your vehicle to the small display screen that hooks to your keychain. All you need to do is enter the price of gas and the EconoDriver begins calculating the cost of the trip as you drive. lemurmonitors.com.

3 The Slime Powerspair is a 48-piece kit that includes everything you need to fix a flat and get you back on the road. Included in it, you get a heavy-duty 12-volt compressor that will inflate most tires in about three minutes. Available on amazon.com as well as other automotive shopping web sites.

4 Most significant about Alpine's PDX series of audio amplifiers is the high power output versus the compact size: about three-quarters the size of a phone book and just five-centimetres thick. In terms of output, the base PDX-F4 provides 100 watts, peak, to each of four speakers or 200 watts to two speakers. **WHEELBASE MEDIA**

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•Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between October 1997 and August 2010. *Limited time lease offers on a new 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E2BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX-G with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E4BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJX) // 2011 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RE3H5BEY) // 2011 Honda CR-V EX 2WD (Model RE3H5BJ) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative lease example: based on a 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJX) on a 48-month term at 0.9% lease APR, the monthly payment is $267 [includes $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF filters ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $12,834, 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. †Receive 0.9% purchase financing on a new 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E2BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX-G with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E4BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJX) // 2011 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RE3H5BEY) // 2011 Honda CR-V EX 2WD (Model RE3H5BJ) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Example: based on a 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJX) on a 60-month term at 0.9% APR and complete price of $21,110 [includes $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF filters ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration], the monthly payment is $360. Cost of borrowing is $486 for a total finance obligation of $21,596. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. ‡$750 Gas Card offer applies only to retail customer purchase, lease or finance agreements for new 2011 Civic models concluded between April 1st, 2011 and April 30th, 2011 at participating Ontario Honda Retailers. $750 Gas Card offer includes GST. PST, HST, GST where applicable and consists of $500 Customer Incentive from Honda Canada Inc. and $250 Customer Incentive from individual Ontario Honda Retailers. For all offers: license, insurance, registration, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST and tax for fuel conservation, if applicable) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Retailer may sell/lease for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit hondaontario.com for full details.

This Toyota could be a prime pickup

Last-generation Tacoma offers reliability, but check for rust

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ 2004 Toyota Tacoma

Few pickup trucks can match the tough and charming Toyota Tacoma where popularity and owner loyalty are concerned.

Long sought out for its ruggedness, off-road abilities and knack for reliable long-term operation, Tacoma has earned itself thousands of happy followers.

Tacoma's competition included the Ford Ranger, Nissan Frontier and Mazda B-Series. Used Tacoma shoppers in the 1996 to 2004 generation will find a variety of options and configurations available to suit a wide range of needs.

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 1996 to 2004 Toyota Tacoma
- **Vehicle Type:** Pickup truck
- **Approximate used price range:** $3,500 to $10,000

Look for a pair of four-cylinder engines, displacing 2.4 or 2.7-litres and whipping up 160 or 177 lb.-ft of torque, respectively.

A 3.4-litre V6 was also available with 220 lb.-ft of torque, and is recommended for those intending to tow or haul more extensively. If that's not your cup of tea, the 2.7-litre engine should prove cheaper to fuel and maintain — not to mention adequately powerful.

Look for manual or automatic transmissions and a 4x4 system with low-range for real-world capability.

Seating for three or five was available, and a four-door, small-box DoubleCab model offered additional passenger capacity from 2001 on.

What Owners Like

Styling, off-road capability, long-term reliability and a relatively smooth powertrain were all praised by many of Tacoma's owners. Decent mileage, ground clearance and power output were also rated highly.

What Owners Hate

Common complaints deal with thin paint and body panels, which are easily chipped and dented, respectively. Other gripes include uncomfortable seats, a stiff ride and a shallow bed. Finally, numerous owners wish for a better standard stereo.

Common Issues

On a test-drive, check the brakes and 4x4 system for proper operation and engagement. Tires and the clutch, if equipped, should be checked for wear as well. If in doubt, ask a mechanic.

The underbody should be extensively checked for dents, scrapes and punctures caused by off-roading, too. If the vehicle's former owner bashed the heck out of the Tacoma's floorpan during careless off-roading, now is the time to find out.

Finally, Having the Tacoma you're considering inspected for rust should be considered absolutely mandatory. Though no worrisome drivetrain or electronic-related issues present themselves in checks of online forums, some earlier Tacoma models in this generation were actually recalled due to a heavy rust problem, which could see the frame perforate.

The Verdict

Ultimately, a clean, well-maintained and rust-free Tacoma should provide years of enjoyable pickup truck wholesomeness with minimal headaches.

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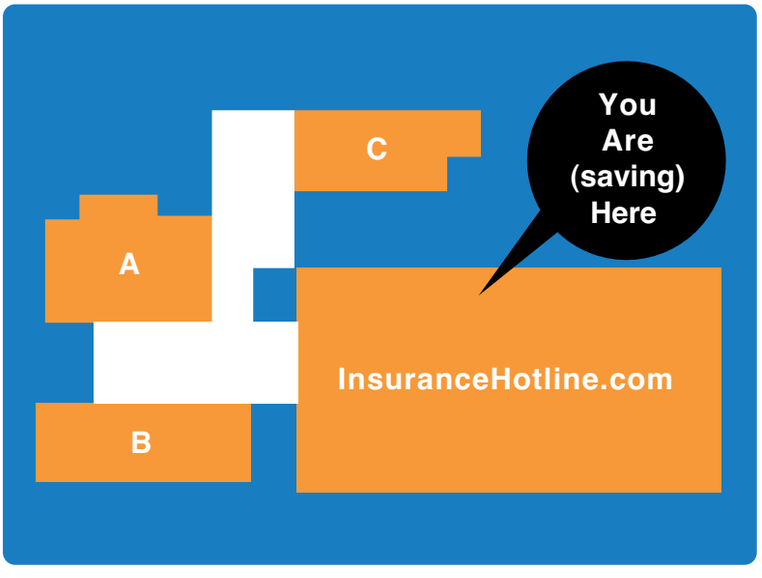

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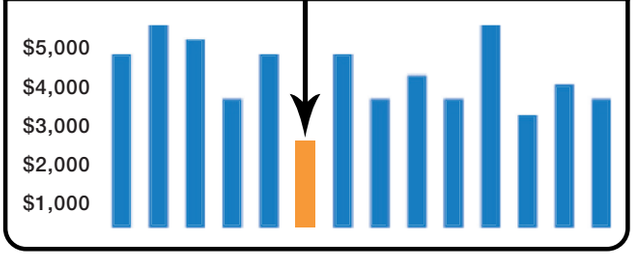

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2011 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.§

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The next-generation of sunroofs

Mercedes-Benz offering a sunroof that goes dark at touch of a button

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

If your car has a sunroof, you've undoubtedly pulled the screen over it for some shade on a sunny day.

Now a new glass roof from Mercedes-Benz, called Magic Sky Control, achieves the same goal without a screen, going dark at the touch of a button to keep the sun from shining in.

It's available as an option on the 2012 retractable-roof SLK roadster.

"The technology differs from both auto-dimming mirrors and in eyeglasses that automatically go dark, using a different kind of sensor technology," says David Sherrard, SLK product manager for Mercedes-Benz Canada.

"Unlike those photogrey (eyeglass) lenses, Magic Sky Control system relies on electricity to vary the opacity of the glass."

The sunroof can be either left transparent, or darkened by pushing a button.

The system uses a control unit and converter that are integrated into the front section of the roof.

When these send an electrical voltage through the glass, particles within the glass position themselves so that light can pass through — the window is transparent.

However, once the voltage is turned off, the particles position themselves randomly, which partially blocks the light and turns the glass dark.

MERCEDES-BENZ

▶ Mercedes-Benz's Magic Sky Control is available as an option on the 2012 retractable-roof SLK roadster.

Even in transparent mode, the roof blocks UV and infrared light, Sherrard says, but insulation increases significantly and noticeably when the glass is darker.

This helps to keep the temperature on interior parts such as armrests cooler by up to 10 degrees C compared with conventional green glass or a sunshade, Sherrard says.

Because it depends on electrical current to stay transparent, the glass goes dark when the car is shut off and power no longer goes to the roof system.

This keeps the car from getting too hot when it's parked in the sun, which in turn reduces the amount of air conditioning needed when it's started up again.

The automaker tested the roof in 50 C heat in Death Valley, where the load from the sun dropped by ⅒ when the Magic Sky Control roof went from transparent to dark.

Mirrors

- Many automakers, including Mercedes-Benz, offer auto-dimming inside rearview or outside mirrors.
- These also use electricity to darken the glass, but the voltage moves through a special electrochromic gel that is sandwiched between two pieces of glass with a conductive coating.
- Unlike the Magic Sky Control roof, which is operated by the driver, these mirrors work automatically. They depend on one sensor that determines how dark it is outside, and a second sensor that looks rearward and senses glare from car headlights behind it.

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0% APR¥ Purchase financing for 36 months.

$2,000* Cash Incentive

HWY 5.6L/100 KM (50 MPG)†
CITY 7.4L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

THUR APRIL 14
9am - 9pm

2011 RAV4

all-in lease **$307*@ 3.4%** APR
$0 Down payment
per month for 60 months when you apply the $1,000* Cash Incentive. Includes freight and fees. HST extra.

0% APR¥ Purchase financing for 36 months.

$1,000* Cash Incentive

HWY 6.9L/100 KM (41 MPG)†
CITY 9.5L/100 KM (30 MPG)†

FRI APRIL 15
9am - 6pm

SAT APRIL 16
9am - 6pm

Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. ?All-in price of a new 2011 Camry LE (Model BF3ELTA)/2011 Venza FWD (Model ZA3BBTA)/2011 Corolla (Model BU42EMA)/2011 RAV4 FWD (Model ZF4DVPA) is $26,935/$31,005/$16,875/$26,290. All-In price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. ¥0%/0% finance APR per month for 36/36 months. Example $25,000 at 0% at 36 months, monthly payment is $694. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $25,000. *3.4%/3.4% lease APR for 60/60 months. **Monthly payment is $179/$307 when you apply the $2,000/$1,000 Cash Incentive with a $0/$0 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,771/$18,445. All-In lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 120,000/120,000KMS. Additional KM charge of $.07/$.10 for excess kilometres if applicable. ?Cash Incentives are available on new 2011 Camry LE and 2011 Venza FWD and are comprised of Cash Customer Incentive and Four Million Sold Bonus. Cash Customer Incentive of $2,000/$2,500 is valid on retail delivery for all Toyota retail customer except customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. Advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash customer incentive takes place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of negotiated price. $500/$1,000 Four Million Sold Bonus is valid on retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Cash Incentive on a new 2011 RAV4 FWD is comprised of $1,000 Four Million Sold Bonus. Cash Incentive on a new 2011 Corolla is comprised of $500 Four Million Sold Bonus and $1,500 Customer Incentive and is valid on retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Offers are valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) when purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Vehicles receiving cash incentives must be purchased, registered and delivered between April 1 and May 2, 2011. †These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers are valid between April 1 and May 2, 2011 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

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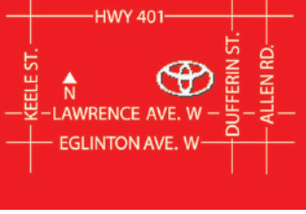


NASCAR champ's buying tips

If Tony Stewart can pilot a racer at 300 km/h, he must know something about cars, right?

TOM JENSEN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Tony Stewart is a busy man with far-flung interests. The two-time NASCAR Sprint Cup driving champion is still a top-flight driver, and he owns race teams and race tracks, promotes an automotive trade show and even operates a deer habitat in his native Indiana through a joint venture with Mississippi State University.

And Stewart still has a huge passion for vintage and collector cars.

"I've probably got about 12 or 14 collector cars right now," says Stewart. "I wish I could say I knew every detail about every one of them, but every one of the cars I've got, it's something that I walked by and it caught my eye."

Stewart's specific tastes these days run the gamut — he has several custom rides from the 1950s and '60s, as well as some late-model muscle cars.

Although a busy racing schedule doesn't allow Stewart much time to attend automotive events, the one show he tries to make as often as possible is the Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Event in Scottsdale, Ariz., each January.

"Barrett-Jackson is like Kryptonite to me," says Stewart. "When I go, I'm going to buy something."

Stewart's advice to collectors? Educate yourself before you buy. And if you are buying a car for investment purposes, make sure it's a car with the original engine, transmission and rear end, referred to in the business as a "matching numbers" car.

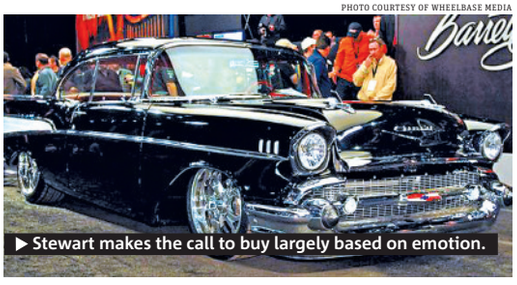
"Cars will get hot for a couple of years, and then it seems like something else will get hot," says Stewart. "As far as cars that are matching numbers and have been restored correctly, those cars hold their value for a long time.

"When it comes to custom cars, it's not so much what are they worth, it's what are they worth to the buyers? There's no real rhyme or reason for custom cars."

Stewart's cars

- '50 Mercury lead sled
- '55 Chevy Nomad wagon
- '56 Chevy short bed pickup
- '57 Chevy Bel Air
- '63 Ford Galaxie
- '67 Pontiac GTO
- '79 Smokey & The Bandit edition Trans Am
- pimped-out H2 Hummer

PHOTO COURTESY OF WHEELBASE MEDIA



▶ Stewart makes the call to buy largely based on emotion.

RUSTY JARRETT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Tony Stewart

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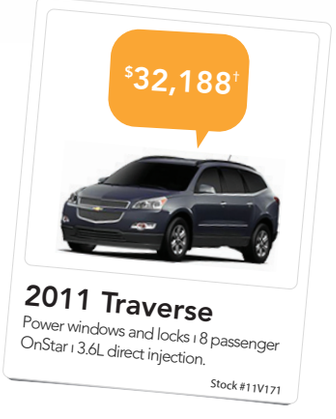

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Roy Foss Motors asks you to read the fine print. All our prices include freight, preparation and administration fee of $449. You simply pay HST (13%). *$258 per mo/60 months with $2888 down, Smart Purchase with a final payment of $5681.77. Total term 83 months. †Plus taxes. $250.00 Esso card included with every new car purchase between April 12 - 16, 2011.

How to fix that scratch

Accidentally scratched your car? You don't have to pay big bucks at a body shop Try this at home first

Accidentally scratching your vehicle is something every driver has done, despite the lengths we go to avoid doing it.

Good news: light to medium scratches can be removed without an expensive trip to a body shop. Here's how:

Prepare the surface.
Clean the scratched area with soap and water, and dry it completely with a clean, dry cloth.

Sand and reduce the scratch.
Spray water on the repair area and over a very fine abrasive sandpaper (3,000 grit).

Gently sand the area of the scratch by hand with light-to-medium pressure.

While sanding, a light foam will appear, indicating the abrasive is reducing the scratch.

Wipe the sanded area to be sure the scratch has been removed. The area being sanded will look dull, but don't worry because the gloss will be restored in the next steps.

Compound and refine the scratch.
Use a quarter-sized amount of a rubbing compound onto a compound pad and continue to buff until the clear coat's shine is partially restored.

Remove any remaining compound from the area with a clean, dry cloth.

Polish and restore shine.
Onto a polishing pad, place a quarter-sized amount of scratch remover. Polish the area until the shine is fully restored.

Protect it.
For added protection, apply automotive wax to the area, or the entire vehicle.

To make things easy, there are kits like 3M's Scratch Removal System from automotive specialty stores.

These types of kits have all the pads, product and abrasives you'll need and are used in conjunction with a household drill, making the buffing and polishing stages even more effective than when it's done by hand.

NEWS CANADA

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▶ Light to medium scratches can be removed in a few simple steps.

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Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between October 1997 and August 2010. *Limited time lease offers on a new 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX with Manual Transmission (Model FA1F2BEK) / 2011 Honda Civic Sedan DX-G with Manual Transmission (Model FA1F2BEK) / 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJU) / 2011 Honda Civic Sedan EX with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJU) / 2011 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RE3H5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX 2WD (Model RE3H5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX-L 2WD (Model RE3H5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V LX AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX-L AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) / 2011 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RE3K5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX 2WD (Model RE3K5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX-L 2WD (Model RE3K5BJW) / 2011 Honda CR-V LX AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) / 2011 Honda CR-V EX-L AWD (Model RE3K5BEY) on a 60-month term at 0.9% APR and complete price of $21,110 (includes $1,395 freight and PDI, $300 Honda Select Protection Plan, $195 Financial Services Inc., an approved credit. Example: based on a 2011 Honda Civic Sedan SE with Manual Transmission (Model FA1E6BJU

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all-in price $31,005[v]

$3,500* Cash Incentive

$27,505 All-in cash price after incentives. Includes freight and fees. HST extra.

HWY 6.8L/100 KM (42 MPG)† CITY 10.0L/100 KM (28 MPG)†

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$0 Down payment

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Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. ◆All-in price of a new 2011 Camry LE (Model BF3EITAV/2011 Venza FWD (Model Z43BBTAV/2011 Corolla (Model BU42EMAV/2011 RAV4 FWD (Model Z44DVPA) is $26,935/$31,005/$16,875/$26,290. All-in price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. ¥0%/0% finance APR per month for 36/36 months. Example $25,000 at 0% at 36 months, monthly payment is $694. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $25,000. *3.4%/3.4% lease APR for 60/60 months. Monthly payment is $179/$307 when you apply the $2,000/$1,000 Cash Incentive with a $0/$0 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,771/$18,445. All-In lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 120,000/120,000KMS. Additional KM charge of $.07/$.10 for excess kilometres if applicable. ✦Cash Incentives are available on new 2011 Camry LE and 2011 Venza FWD and are comprised of Cash Customer Incentive and Four Million Sold Bonus. Cash Customer Incentive of $2,000/$2,500 is valid on retail delivery for all Toyota retail customer **except** customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. Advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash customer incentive takes place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of negotiated price. $500/$1,000 Four Million Sold Bonus is valid on retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Cash Incentive on a new 2011 Corolla is comprised of $500 Four Million Sold Bonus and $1,500 Customer Incentive and is valid on retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Offers are valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) when purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. **Vehicles receiving cash incentives must be purchased, registered and delivered between April 1 and May 2, 2011.** ‡ These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers are valid between April 1 and May 2, 2011 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

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CLEARANCE

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Cash Purchase Credit

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GT MODEL SHOWN

CLEARANCE

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Cash Purchase Credit

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*Cash Purchase Pricing for new 2010 Mazda5 GS (E6SD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G4SY60AA00)/2010 Mazda3 GX (D4XS50AA00/2010 CX-9 GS (QVSB80AA00) is $16,995/$19,495/$13,995/$33,995. As shown, Cash Purchase Pricing for 2010 Mazda5 GT (E6TD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GT-V6 (G4TB80AA00)/2010 Mazda3 GT (D4TY60AA00/2010 CX-9 GT (QXTB80AA00) is $20,895/$32,995/$21,095/$43,450. All offers include freight, P.D.E. and fees. Offers exclude HST. **$5,000/$5,000/$3,000/$5,000 Mazda Retail Cash applies to 2010 Mazda5/2010 Mazda6/2010 Mazda3/2010 Mazda CX-9 models on cash purchases made between April 6-30, 2011. Licence, insurance, taxes and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Leasing is available on 2011 models only – conditions apply – OAC. See dealer for more detailsDealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer trade or locate may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid Apr. 6th-April 30th or while supplies last. Prices subject to change without notice.

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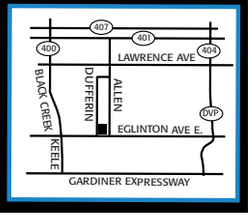

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▶ Be sure to clean underneath to remove corrosive salt, chemicals and grime.

Spring cleaning: How to freshen up your ride

As the great thaw begins, it's time to prep your car for summer Here's how to get rid of winter grime

Ah, springtime. The days are getting longer, leaves are starting to sprout and the great thaw begins.

With this shift in weather comes the promise of warm summer driving — and a reminder that it's time to prep your favourite ride for the road.

You should begin by washing the exterior of your vehicle, and be sure to clean underneath to remove the corrosive salt, chemicals and grime that build up from winter driving. Use a high-pressure hose, paying close attention to wheel wells and bumpers.

Next, have your tires changed and rotated to ensure the best performance and safety on the roads. While winter tires work best in snow, they can accelerate, brake poorly and offer reduced tread life on dry asphalt. Spring is the best time to swap back to your performance-oriented summer or all-season tires, storing your winter set for later.

Just like your tires, the fluids in your vehicle need to be checked each spring to ensure proper engine performance throughout

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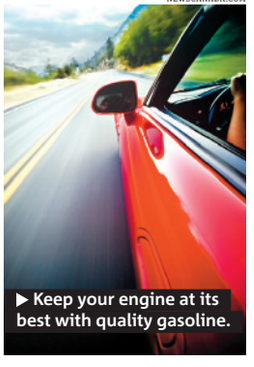

▶ Keep your engine at its best with quality gasoline.

the seasons. Chances are the radiator in your vehicle uses an extended-life antifreeze coolant to prevent it from freezing. Check the coolant level and quality, and consider flushing the radiator if necessary. Most vehicles require fresh coolant every 240,000 km.

While you're at it, be sure to check your oil and top up the rest of your fluids. The most common grade of engine oil in Canada is 5W30, which should perform well under both winter and summer driving conditions. Consult your owner's manual for the recommended grade and quality of oil for your vehicle, and perform an oil and oil filter change at the recommended intervals to provide year-round protection.

Beyond these measures, keeping your engine running at its best this spring is as easy as filling up with a high-quality gasoline.

"Gasoline primarily contains carbon and hydrogen molecules, and combustion can create a residue, called 'gunk,' which is a build-up of carbon particles on critical engine parts," says Ken Mitchell, an engineer from Shell Canada.

"This gunk has a porous surface that can negatively affect combustion and the performance of your vehicle. Some high-quality fuels, like all three grades of Shell's Nitrogen Enriched Gasolines, clean and protect critical engine parts from the build-up of gunk while you drive."

After you've cleaned it from the inside out, take your ride out for a spin to feel the engine roar to life. Think about your summer road trips to come, and enjoy the ride.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous

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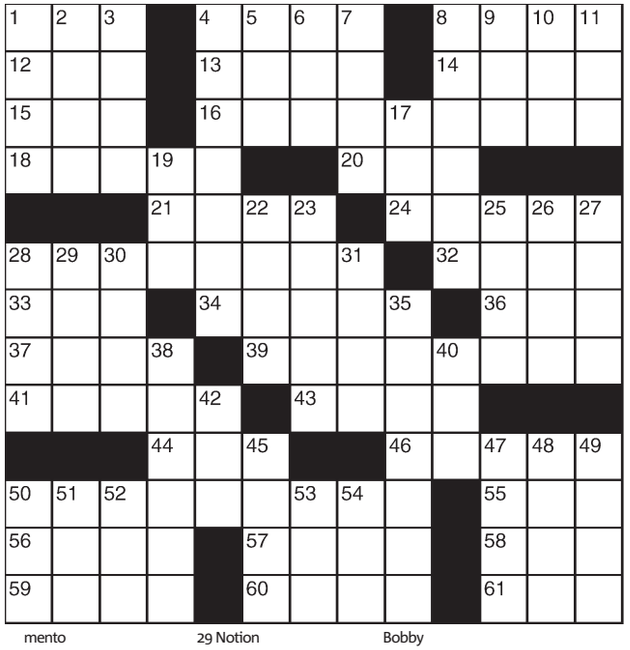
Crossword



Across

1 Nevertheless, for short
4 Head light?
8 Bigfoot's cousin
12 That girl
13 Unpaid
14 Verve
15 Curved line
16 Variety of paper
18 Destruction
20 Edge
21 Moist
24 Jaunty chapeau
28 Democratic Republic of the Congo capital
32 Pay heed to
33 Rhyming tribute
34 Commune of Tuscany
36 "— Town"
37 Get wind of
39 Lollipop Guild member
41 Absorb eagerly
43 Be too fond of, with "on"
44 — -relief
46 Insurrectionist
50 Picture tube
55 Seine liquid
56 Divisible by two
57 — and crafts
58 Donkey
59 Obtains
60 Bikini parts
61 To the — degree

Down

1 Dissolve
2 Frau's man
3 Killer whale
4 Water pipes
5 Plant bristle
6 Mainlander's memento
7 Stench
8 Sycophants
9 Wapiti
10 Skater Babilonia
11 Hostel
17 Pen point
19 LPs' successors
22 Cripple
23 Intellectual pretender
25 Castle
26 Needle case
27 Gull's cousin
28 Former German chancellor Helmut
29 Notion
30 Tide type
31 Part of A.D.
35 Streep, for one
38 Flemish painter
40 Haw preceder
42 — de deux
45 Wound cover
47 Succotash component
48 Right on the map?
49 Luxurious
50 Small barrel
51 "— Got a Secret"
52 Profit
53 Hoockey great
Bobby
54 Sch. org.

▶ Yesterday's answer

D	A	F	T	■	M	I	R	A	■	H	A	H
O	B	O	E	■	E	B	O	N	■	A	L	E
H	A	R	M	O	N	I	C	A	■	R	O	W
■	■	■	P	L	U	S	■	G	A	L	E	N
A	C	H	E	D	■	■	E	R	I	E	■	■
P	A	A	R	■	R	E	M	A	R	Q	U	E
E	R	R	■	G	O	L	E	M	■	U	S	A
D	E	B	O	N	A	I	R	■	H	I	E	D
■	■	I	V	A	N	■	■	L	E	N	D	S
J	O	N	A	S	■	D	O	O	R	■	■	■
E	G	G	■	H	A	R	D	Y	B	O	Y	S
E	R	E	■	E	Y	E	D	■	A	B	U	T
P	E	R	■	S	E	W	S	■	L	I	M	Y

Sudoku

	5		9	1	2		3	
7								9
		9				6		
8	3		7		5		9	1
				8				
1	4		3		6		2	5
		1				2		
9								4
	2		4	3	7		1	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	2	7	5	1	4	9	8	6
9	8	4	3	6	2	1	5	7
5	1	6	9	8	7	4	2	3
2	5	1	7	9	6	3	4	8
4	9	8	2	3	1	7	6	5
6	7	3	4	5	8	2	9	1
8	6	2	1	7	9	5	3	4
7	3	9	6	4	5	8	1	2
1	4	5	8	2	3	6	7	9

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Michelle M. I think about you every day love **TIMMY**

SAWS, I had to do this at least once in my life. One more check on my bucket list. Let's finish our crossword and sudoku today. We can do it! **RHEA**

Michelle, I have done many things that I regret till this day, but meeting you & falling in love is not one of them! I love you so much, and I know it's hard to believe me now, but it's true. Love, **YOUR CUDDLE-BEAR**

Where do I even begin, Abi? You are so ridiculously weird and crazy, but I love you & can't thank you enough for being such a great friend. Don't let anybody get to you, ok? Looking forward to our girls' day out this Saturday. Love you, you bum! I hope I surprise you with this! :) **LOVE, VQ**

Today
11°/3° Variable
Thursday
12°/0° Variable
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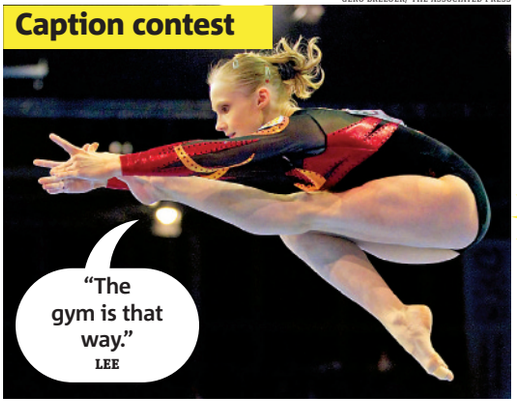
Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 There's nothing brave about keeping pain to yourself when loved ones are ready to assist.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Negative thinking tends to be self-fulfilling. Always stay positive.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 A long-term friendship will be strengthened in some way over the next 24 hours.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You seem able to twist authority figures around your little finger. Take advantage of it.
♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Let those who want to take away your right to speak for yourself know that you will fight them.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Let fear get the better of you, and you'll will miss out on fun.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you make a decision on emotion alone, you will most likely regret it by the end of the week.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Others say what you are planning is foolish and doomed to fail. Will that stop you? Nope.
♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Changes on the work front may be unsettling, but they will work in your favour.
♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Travel plans are well starred. If you feel the urge to get away for a while, just do it.
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 A few encouraging words could have a loved one smiling.
♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. A partnership issue will be resolved in your favour very soon. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

GERO BRELOER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



DMITRY LOVETSKY

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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Forte5 SX shown

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Forte SX shown

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2 DOOR KOUP

Forte Koup SX shown

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Soul 4u shown

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